HUNTER × HUNTER™

ハンター ハンター

15

SHONEN JUMP ADVANCED

Story & Art by
YOSHIHIRO TOGASHI

冨樫義博

I won 20,000 yen at the casino. Though I spent 15,000.

Yoshihiro Togashi

Yoshihiro Togashi's manga career began in 1986 at the age of 20, when he won the coveted Osamu Tezuka Award for new manga artists. He debuted in the Japanese **Weekly Shonen Jump** magazine in 1989 with the romantic comedy **Tende Shôwaru Cupid**. From 1990 to 1994 he wrote and drew the hit manga **YuYu Hakusho**, which was followed by the dark comedy science-fiction series **Level E**, and finally this adventure series, **Hunter x Hunter**, available from VIZ Media's SHONEN JUMP Advanced imprint. In 1999 he married the manga artist Naoko Takeuchi.

HUNTER X HUNTER Volume 15
The SHONEN JUMP ADVANCED Manga Edition

STORY AND ART BY
YOSHIHIRO TOGASHI

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RATED T+ FOR OLDER TEEN
PARENTAL ADVISORY
HUNTER X HUNTER is rated T+ for Older Teen and is recommended for ages 16 and up. Contains realistic violence and mature language.

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SHONEN JUMP ADVANCED
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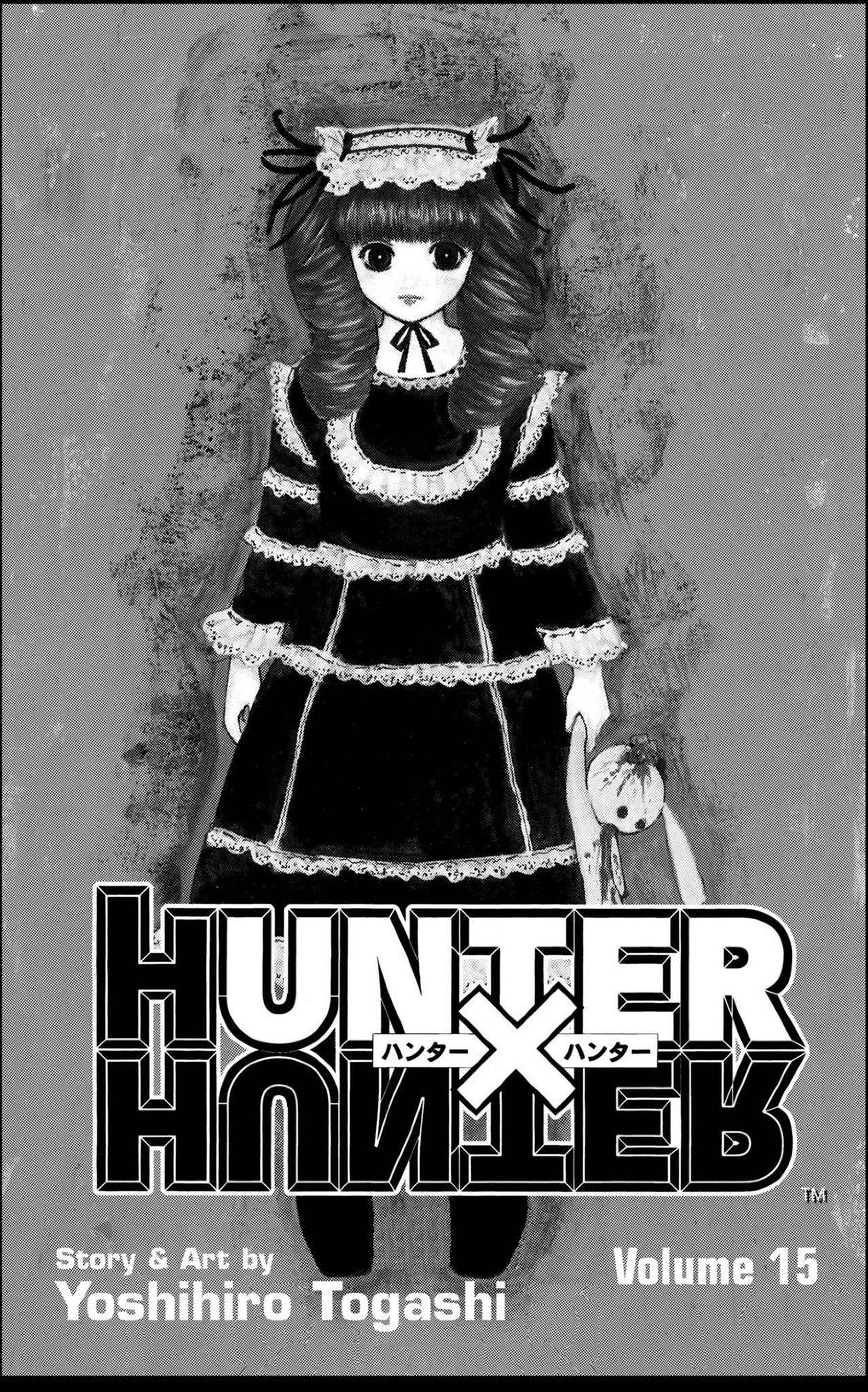
SHONEN JUMP ADVANCED MANGA



HUNTER × HUNTER™

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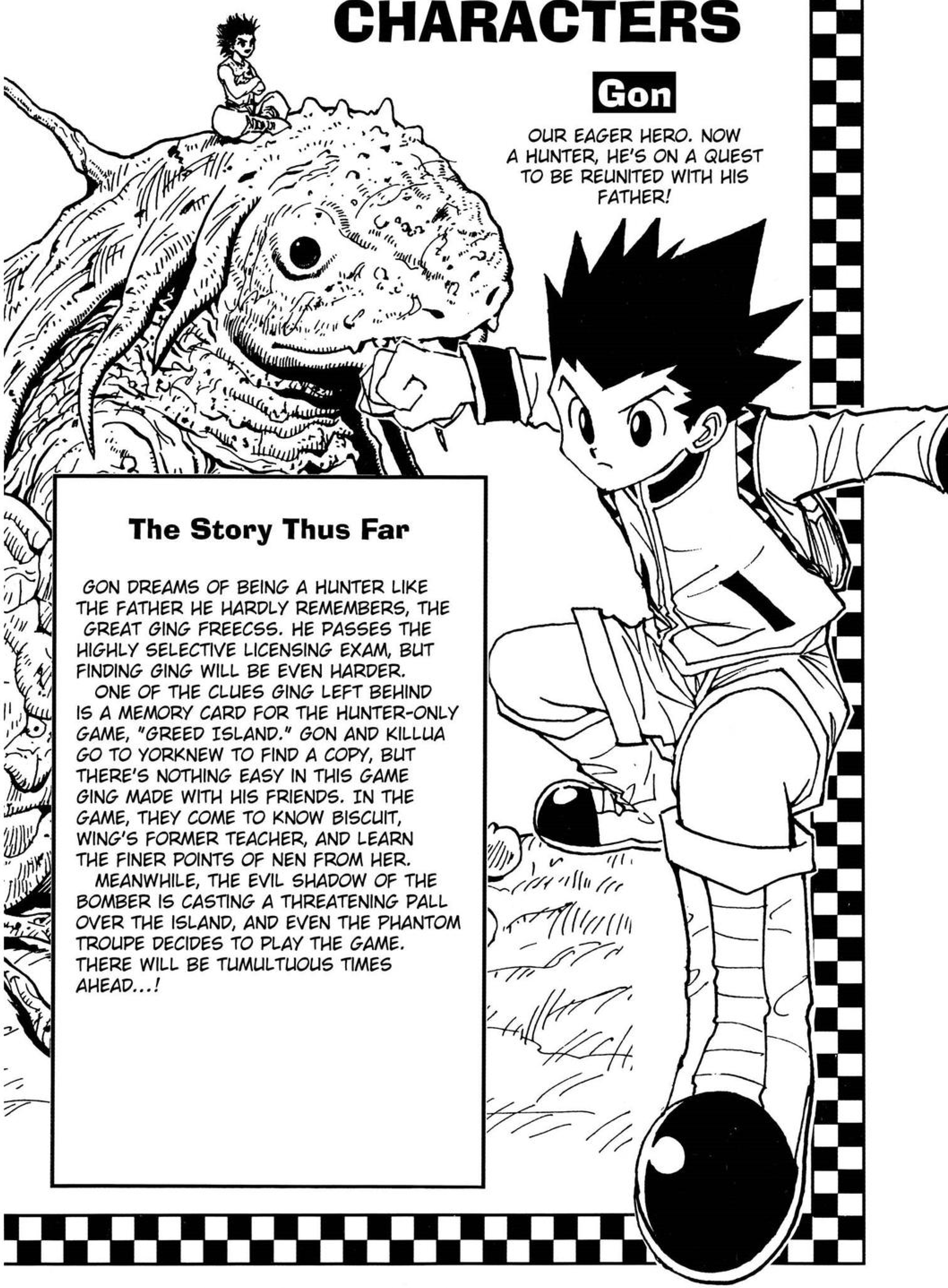
Story & Art by

Yoshihiro Togashi

Volume 15

CHARACTERS



Gon

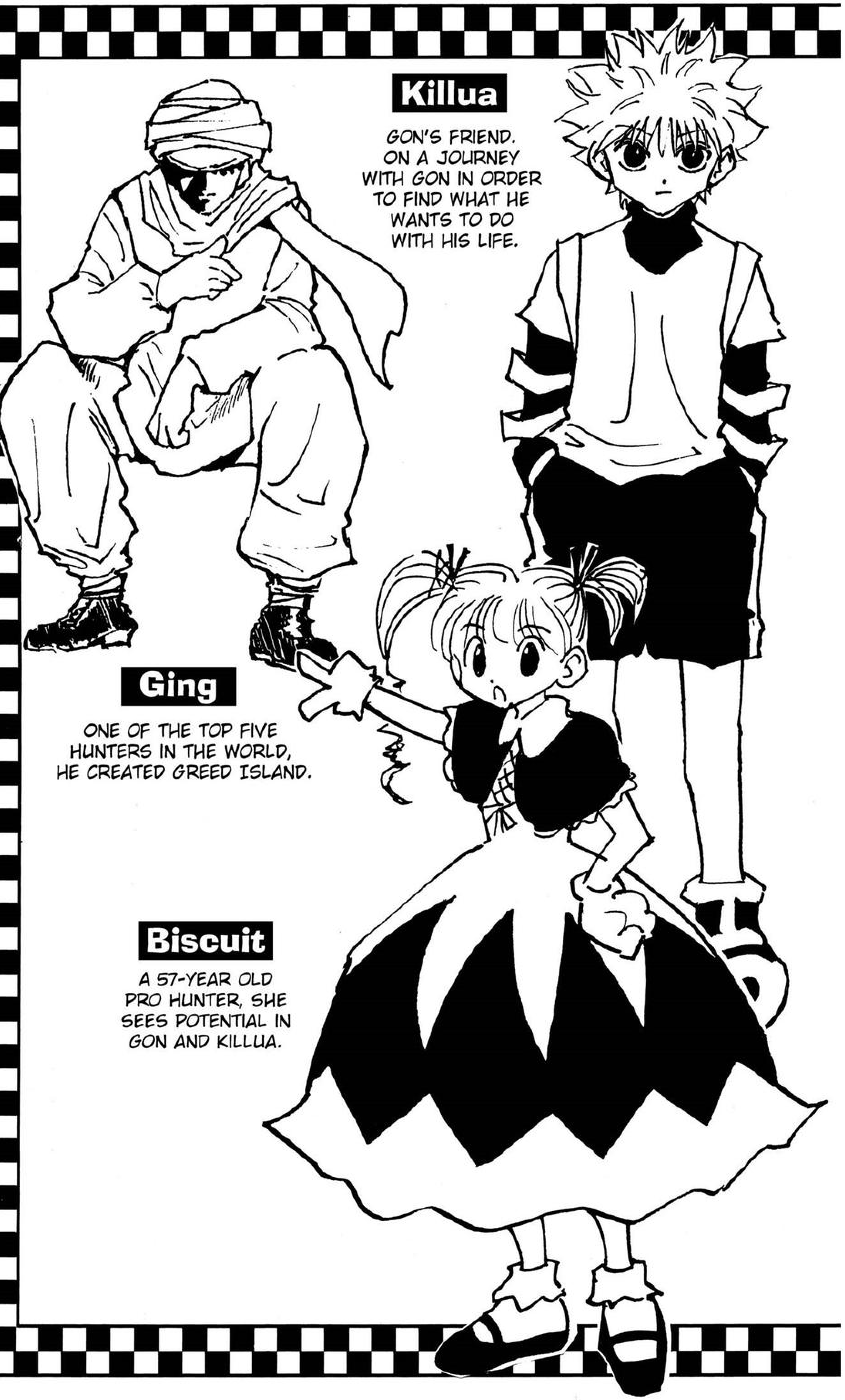
OUR EAGER HERO. NOW A HUNTER, HE'S ON A QUEST TO BE REUNITED WITH HIS FATHER!

The Story Thus Far

GON DREAMS OF BEING A HUNTER LIKE THE FATHER HE HARDLY REMEMBERS, THE GREAT GING FREECSS. HE PASSES THE HIGHLY SELECTIVE LICENSING EXAM, BUT FINDING GING WILL BE EVEN HARDER.

ONE OF THE CLUES GING LEFT BEHIND IS A MEMORY CARD FOR THE HUNTER-ONLY GAME, "GREED ISLAND." GON AND KILLUA GO TO YORKNEW TO FIND A COPY, BUT THERE'S NOTHING EASY IN THIS GAME GING MADE WITH HIS FRIENDS. IN THE GAME, THEY COME TO KNOW BISCUIT, WING'S FORMER TEACHER, AND LEARN THE FINER POINTS OF NEN FROM HER.

MEANWHILE, THE EVIL SHADOW OF THE BOMBER IS CASTING A THREATENING PALL OVER THE ISLAND, AND EVEN THE PHANTOM TROUPE DECIDES TO PLAY THE GAME. THERE WILL BE TUMULTUOUS TIMES AHEAD...!



Killua

GON'S FRIEND. ON A JOURNEY WITH GON IN ORDER TO FIND WHAT HE WANTS TO DO WITH HIS LIFE.

Ging

ONE OF THE TOP FIVE HUNTERS IN THE WORLD, HE CREATED GREED ISLAND.

Biscuit

A 57-YEAR OLD PRO HUNTER, SHE SEES POTENTIAL IN GON AND KILLUA.

HUNTER×HUNTER™

Volume 15

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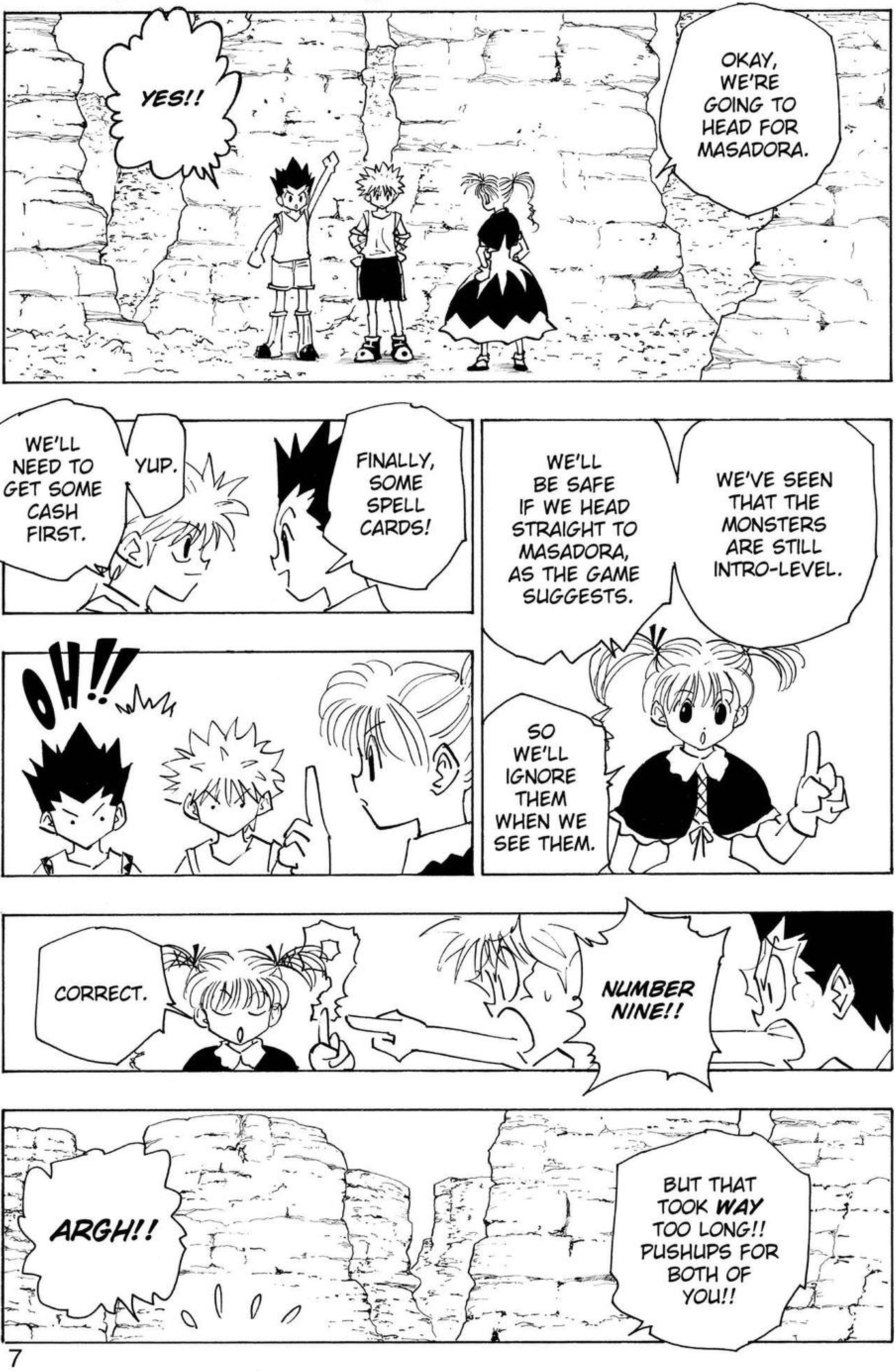
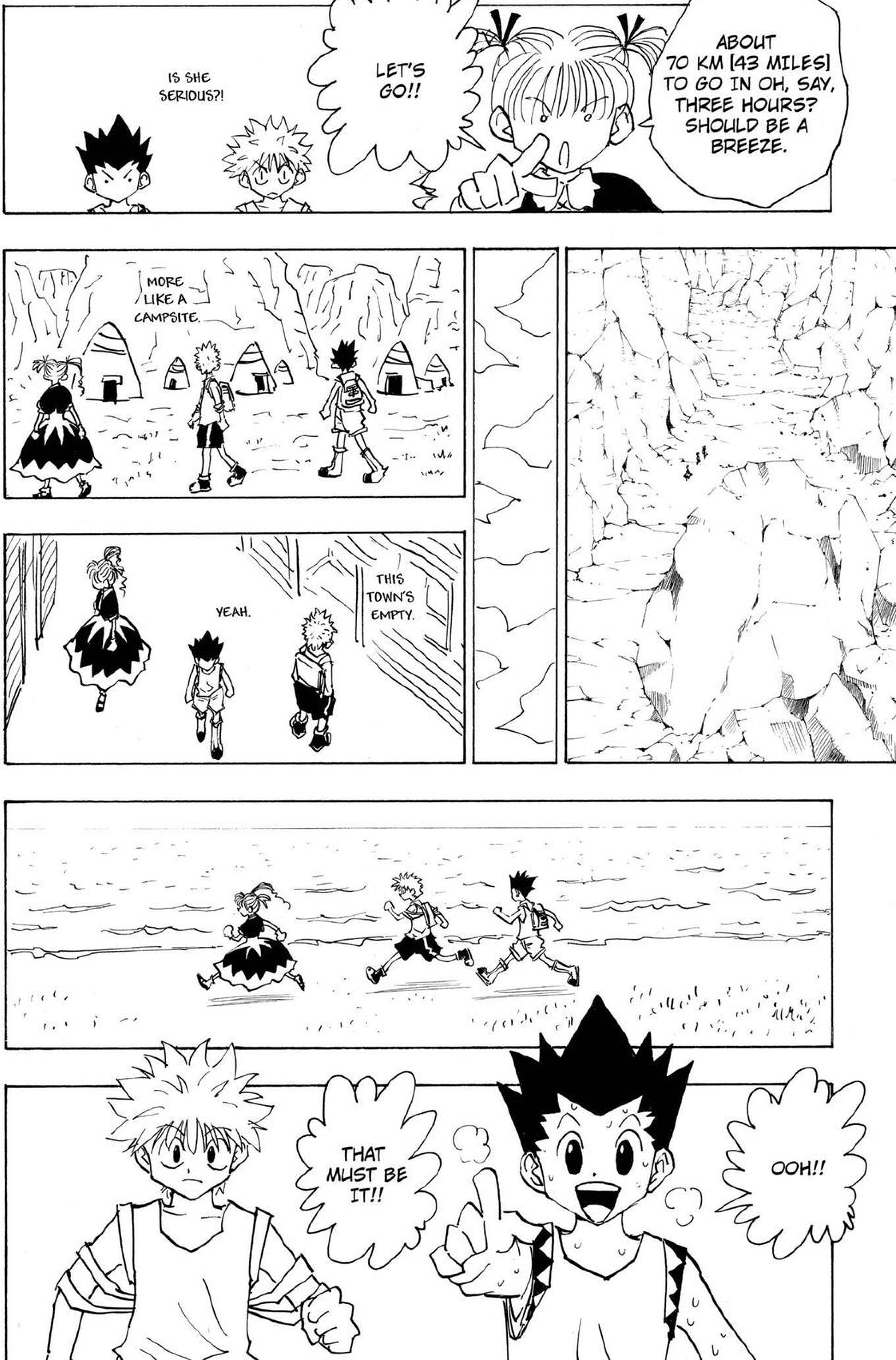
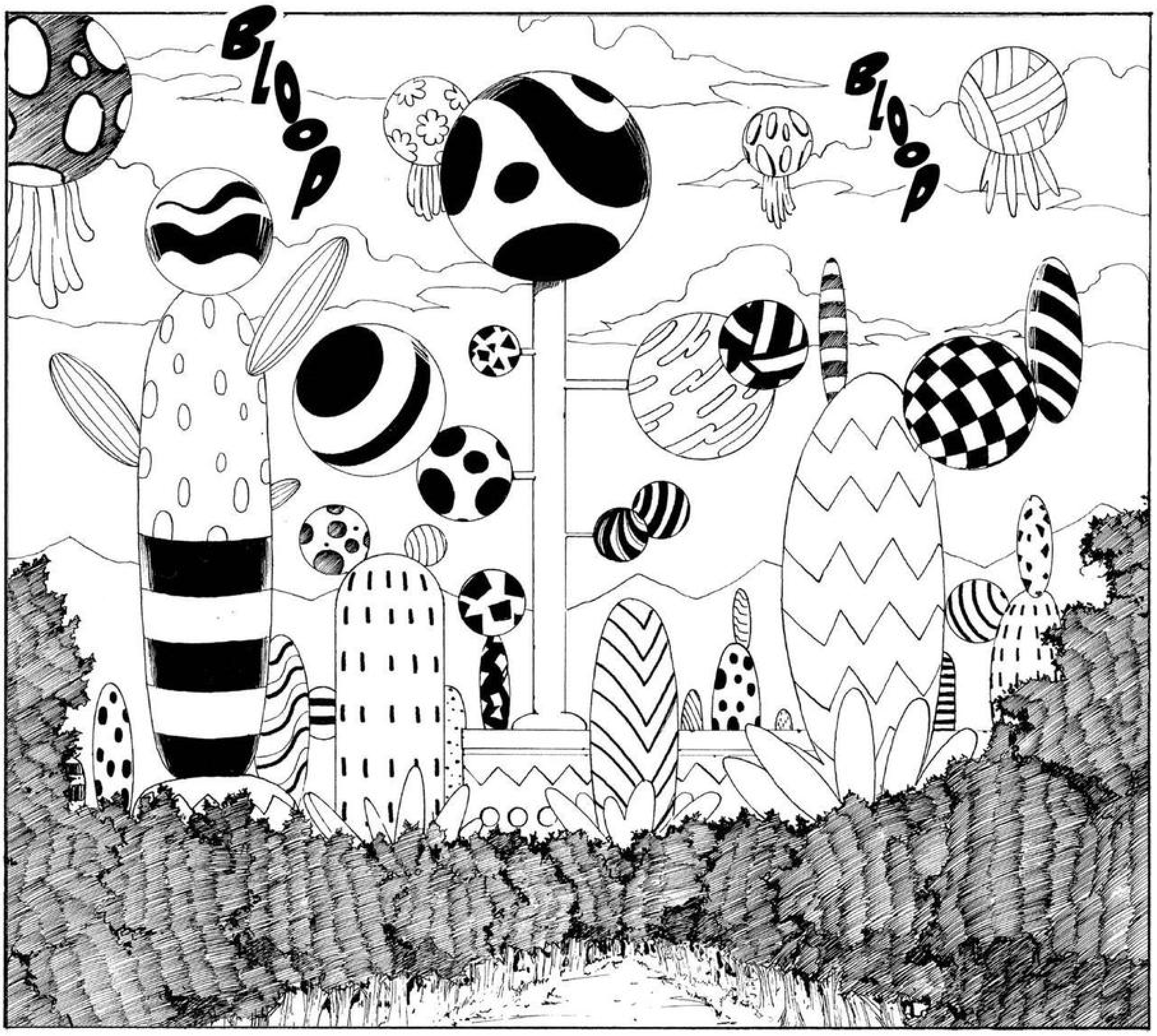
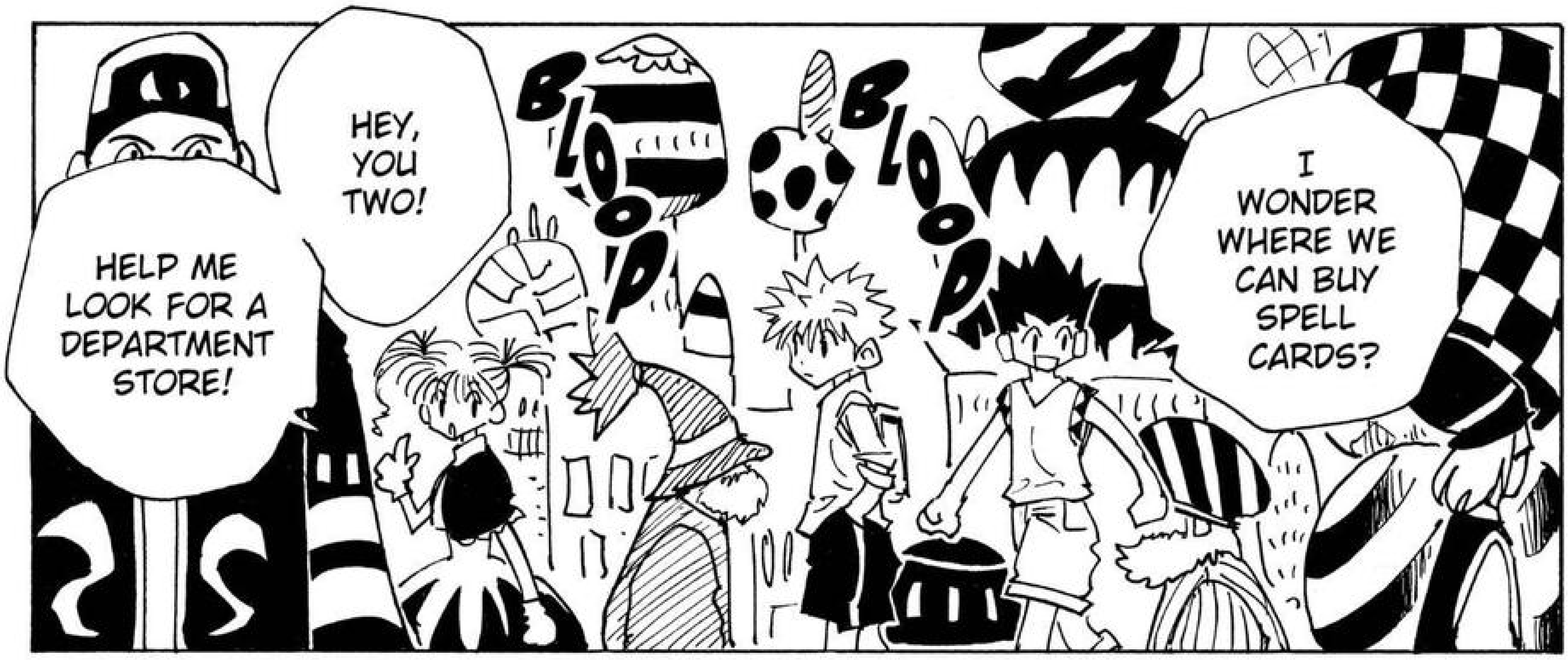
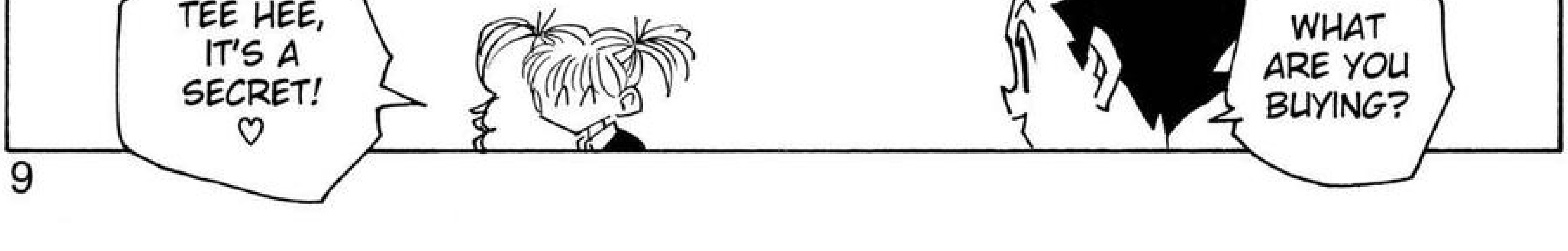
Chapter 140: They Got to Masadora, But...

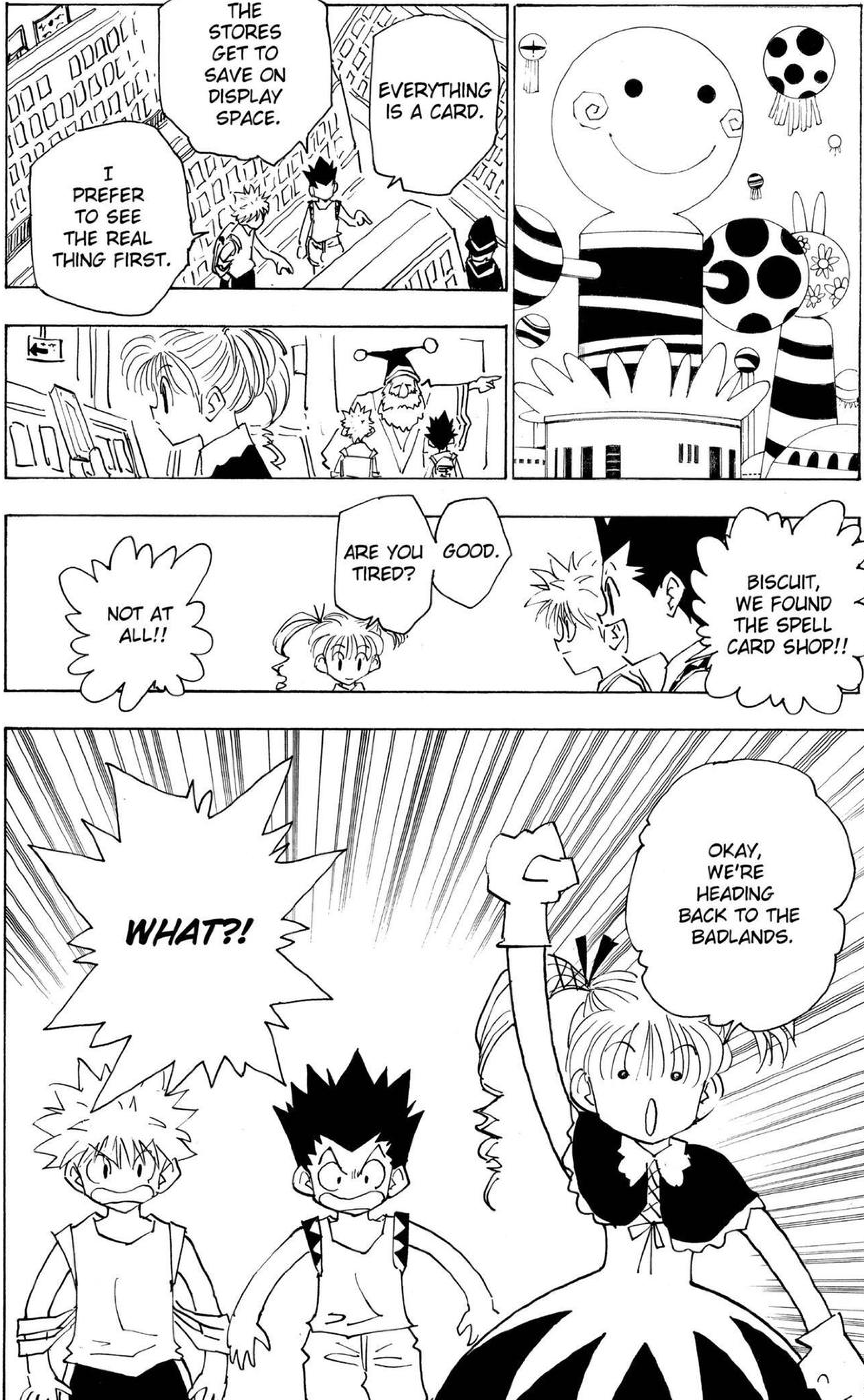

OKAY, WE'RE GOING TO HEAD FOR MASADORA.
YES!!
WE'VE SEEN THAT THE MONSTERS ARE STILL INTRO-LEVEL.
WE'LL BE SAFE IF WE HEAD STRAIGHT TO MASADORA, AS THE GAME SUGGESTS.
SO WE'LL IGNORE THEM WHEN WE SEE THEM.
FINALLY, SOME SPELL CARDS!
YUP.
WE'LL NEED TO GET SOME CASH FIRST.
OH!!
NUMBER NINE!!
CORRECT.
BUT THAT TOOK *WAY* TOO LONG!! PUSHUPS FOR BOTH OF YOU!!
ARGH!!


ABOUT 70 KM [43 MILES] TO GO IN OH, SAY, THREE HOURS? SHOULD BE A BREEZE.
LET'S GO!!
IS SHE SERIOUS?!
THIS TOWN'S EMPTY.
YEAH.
MORE LIKE A CAMPSITE.
OOH!!
THAT MUST BE IT!!

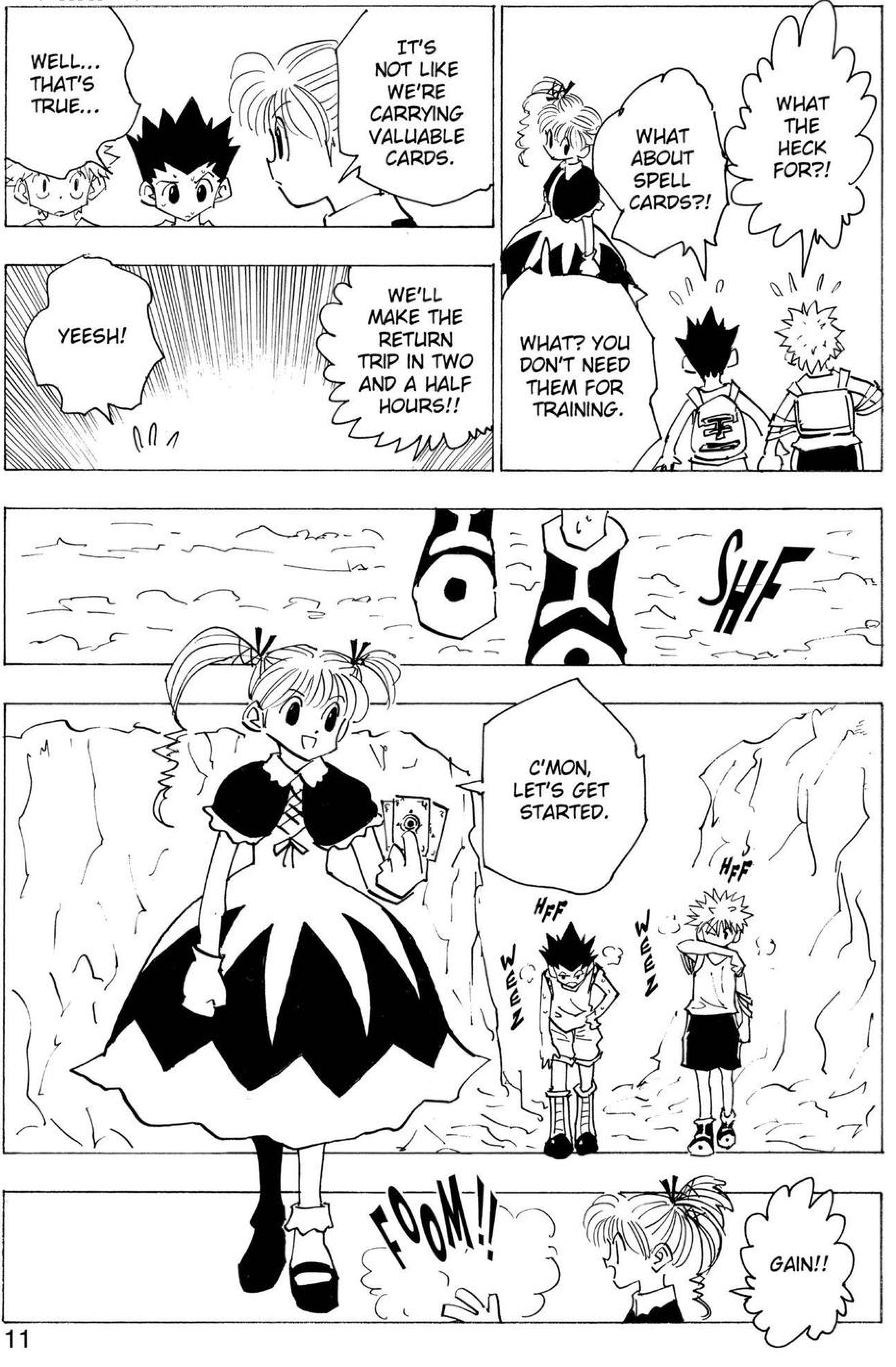

BLOOP
BLOOP

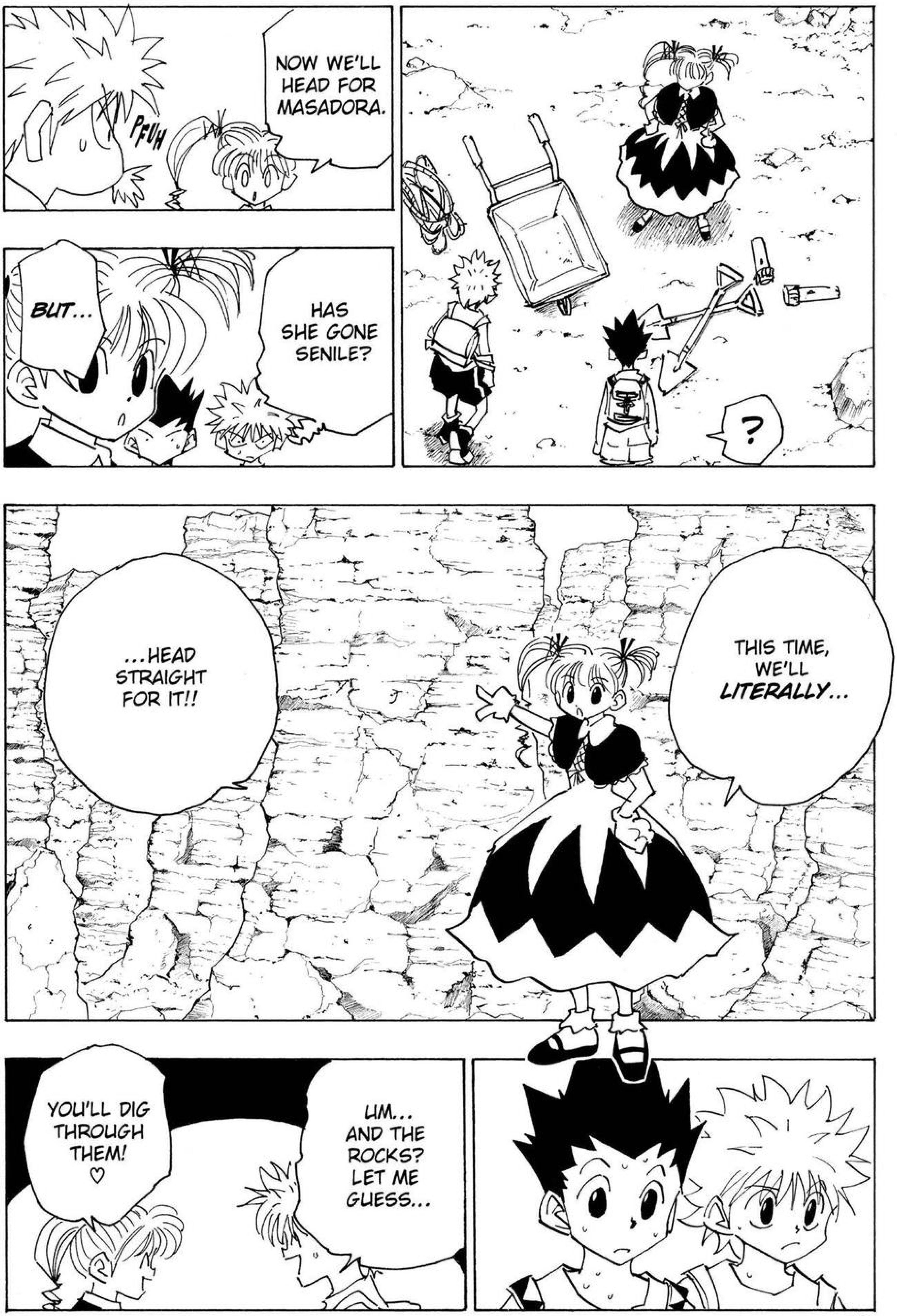

I WONDER WHERE WE CAN BUY SPELL CARDS?
BLOOP
BLOOP
HEY, YOU TWO!
HELP ME LOOK FOR A DEPARTMENT STORE!

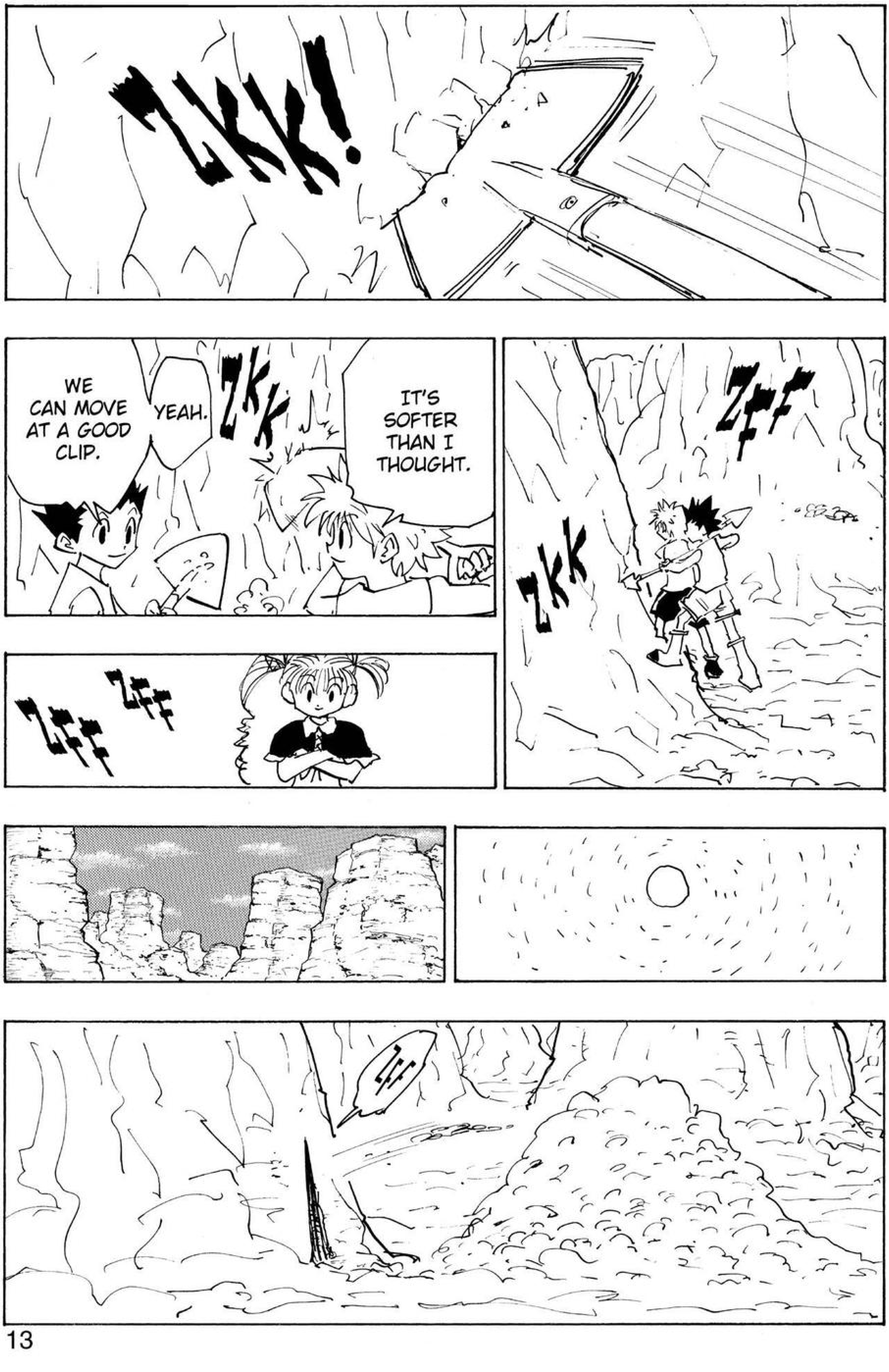

WHAT ARE YOU BUYING?
TEE HEE, IT'S A SECRET! ♡

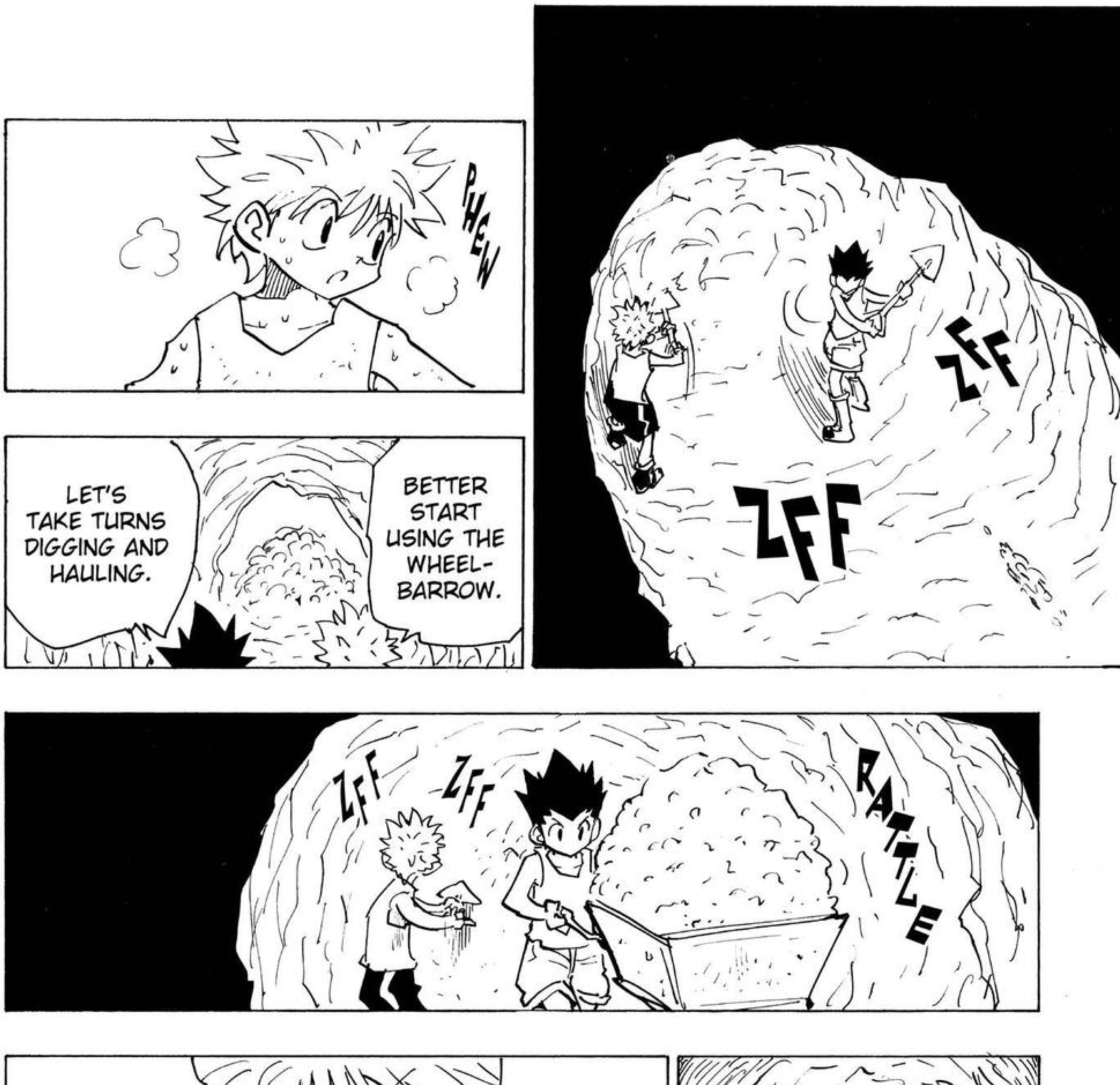

EVERYTHING IS A CARD.
THE STORES GET TO SAVE ON DISPLAY SPACE.
I PREFER TO SEE THE REAL THING FIRST.
BISCUIT, WE FOUND THE SPELL CARD SHOP!!
GOOD.
ARE YOU TIRED?
NOT AT ALL!!
OKAY, WE'RE HEADING BACK TO THE BADLANDS.
WHAT?!

READ THIS WAY

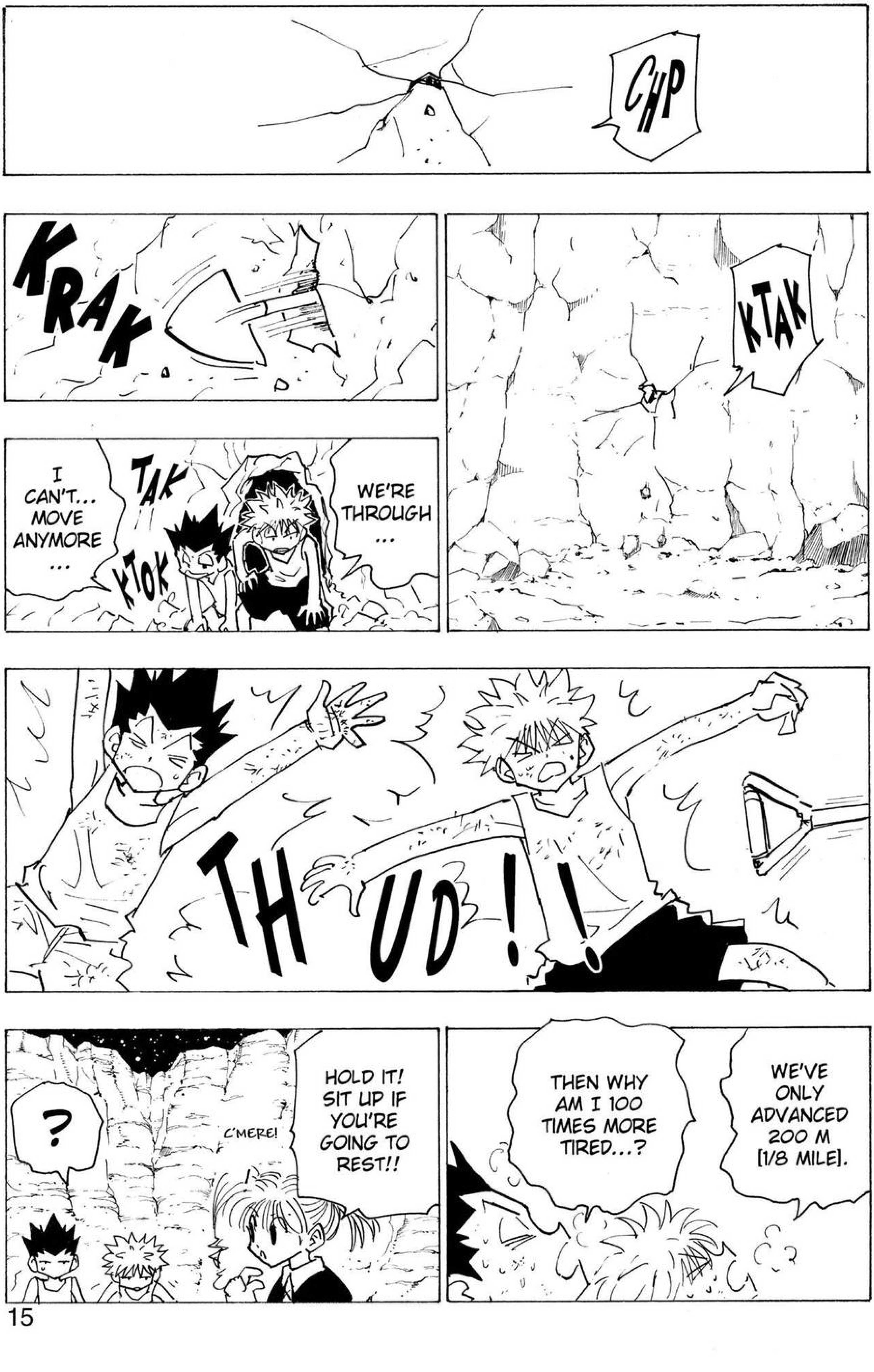

WHAT THE HECK FOR?!
WHAT ABOUT SPELL CARDS?!
WHAT? YOU DON'T NEED THEM FOR TRAINING.
IT'S NOT LIKE WE'RE CARRYING VALUABLE CARDS.
WELL... THAT'S TRUE...
WE'LL MAKE THE RETURN TRIP IN TWO AND A HALF HOURS!!
YEESH!
SHF
C'MON, LET'S GET STARTED.
HFF
WEEZ
HFF
WEEZ
GAIN!!
FOOM!!

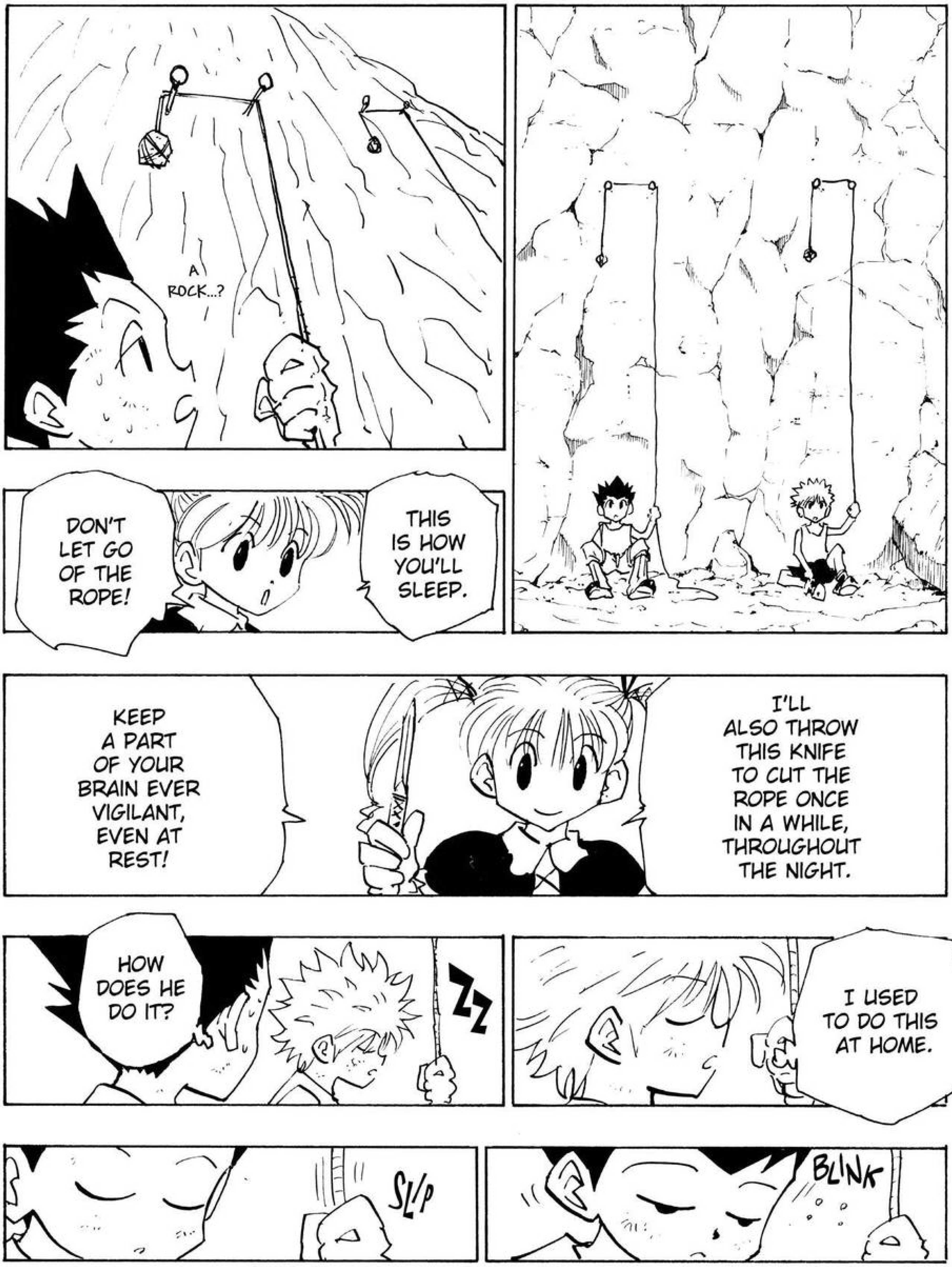

?
NOW WE'LL HEAD FOR MASADORA.
PFUH
HAS SHE GONE SENILE?
BUT...
THIS TIME, WE'LL *LITERALLY...*
...HEAD STRAIGHT FOR IT!!
UM... AND THE ROCKS? LET ME GUESS...
YOU'LL DIG THROUGH THEM! ♡


ZKK!
ZFF
ZKK
IT'S SOFTER THAN I THOUGHT.
ZKK
YEAH.
WE CAN MOVE AT A GOOD CLIP.
ZFF
ZFF
ZFF

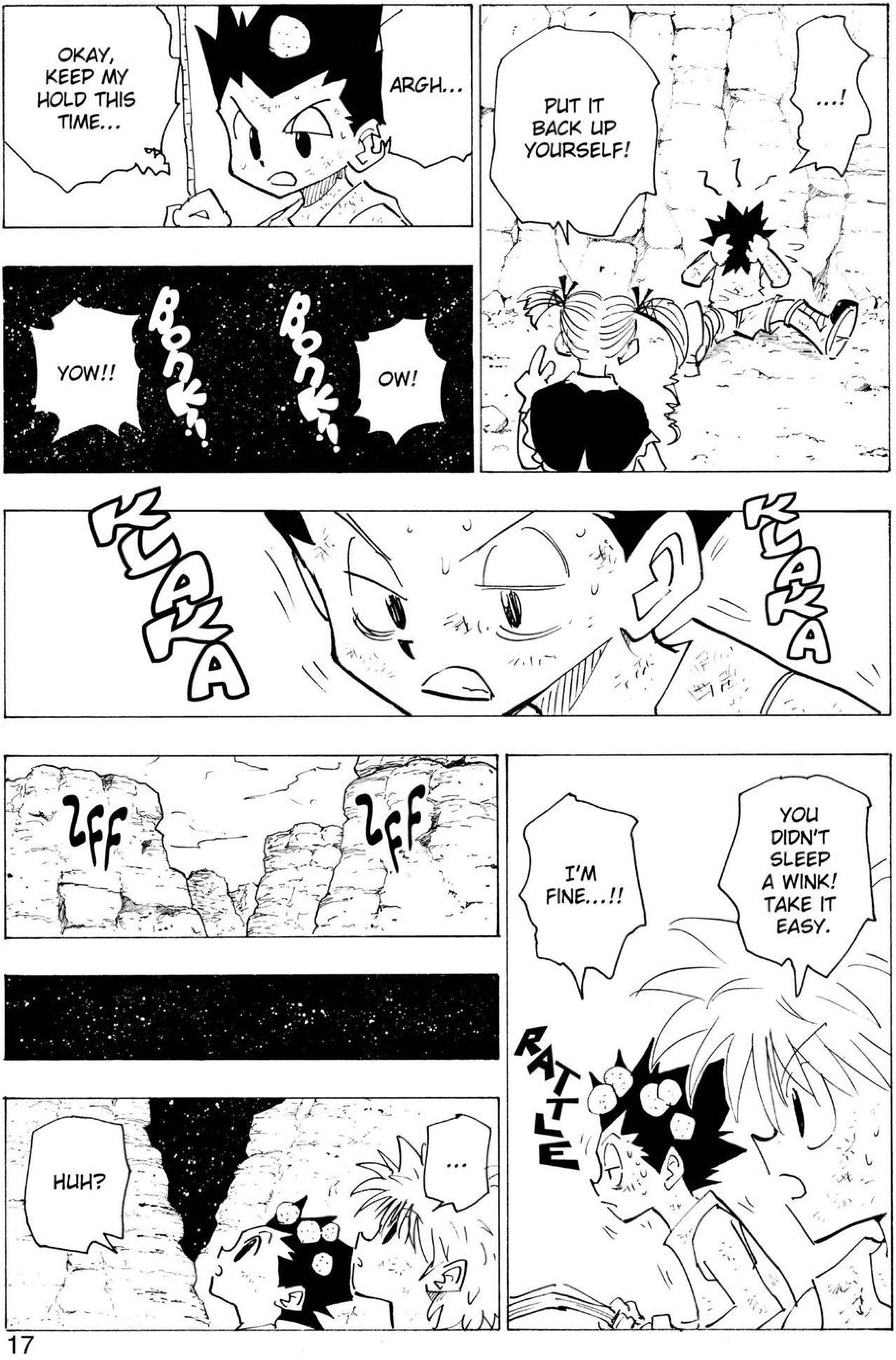

ZFF
ZFF
PHEW
BETTER START USING THE WHEEL-BARROW.
LET'S TAKE TURNS DIGGING AND HAULING.
RATTLE
ZFF
ZFF
UNH... I GOTTA PUT MY **WHOLE BODY** INTO THIS!
AND IT FEELS LIKE THE ROCK'S GETTING HARDER AND HARDER...!!
WHOA... IT TAKES A **LOT** OF LEG...
...**AND** ARM STRENGTH, OR IT'LL TIP OVER!!

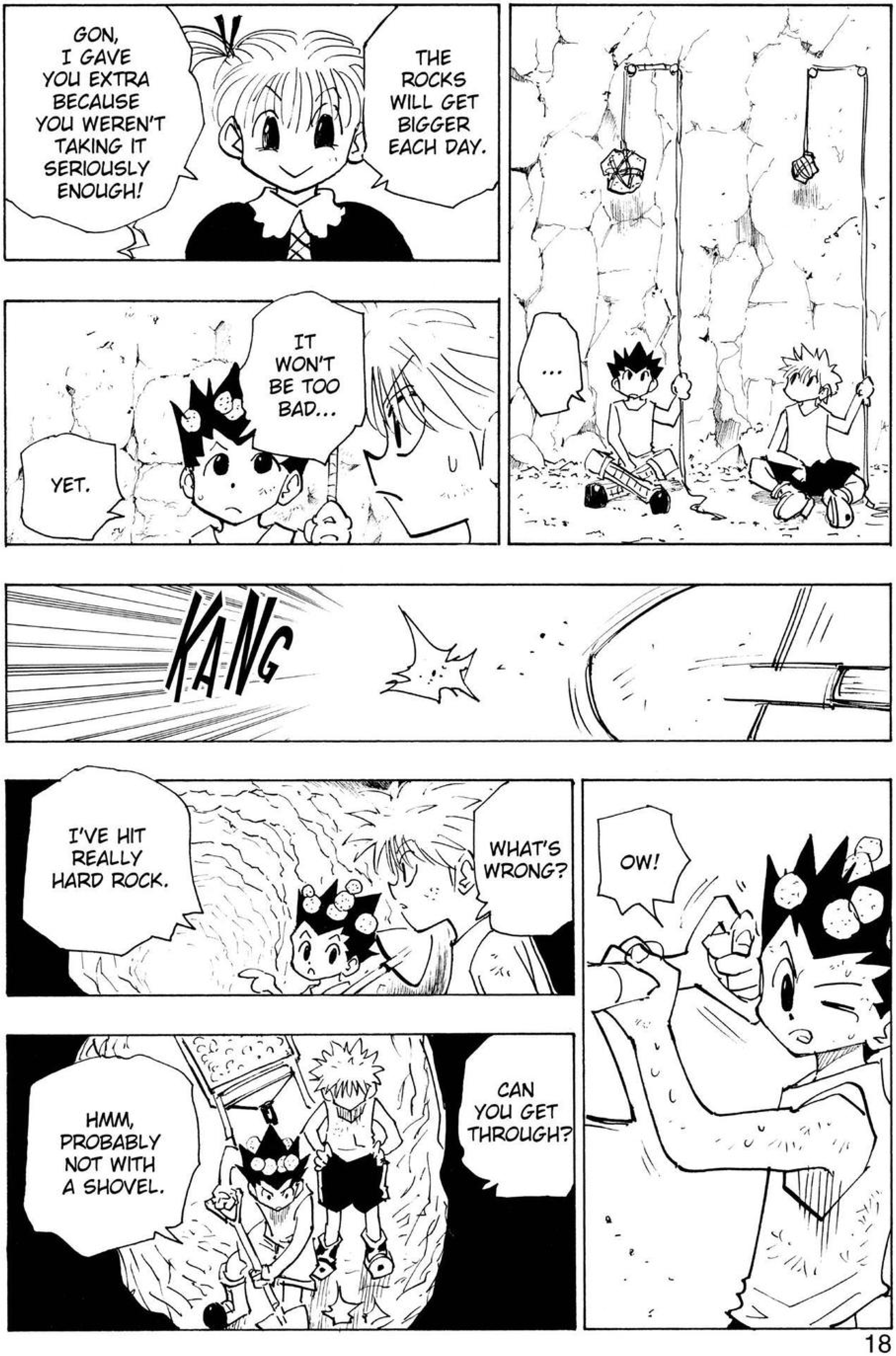
READ THIS WAY


CHP
KTAK
KRAK
WE'RE THROUGH ...
TAK
KTOK
I CAN'T... MOVE ANYMORE ...
THUD!!
WE'VE ONLY ADVANCED 200 M [1/8 MILE].
THEN WHY AM I 100 TIMES MORE TIRED...?
HOLD IT! SIT UP IF YOU'RE GOING TO REST!!
C'MERE!
?

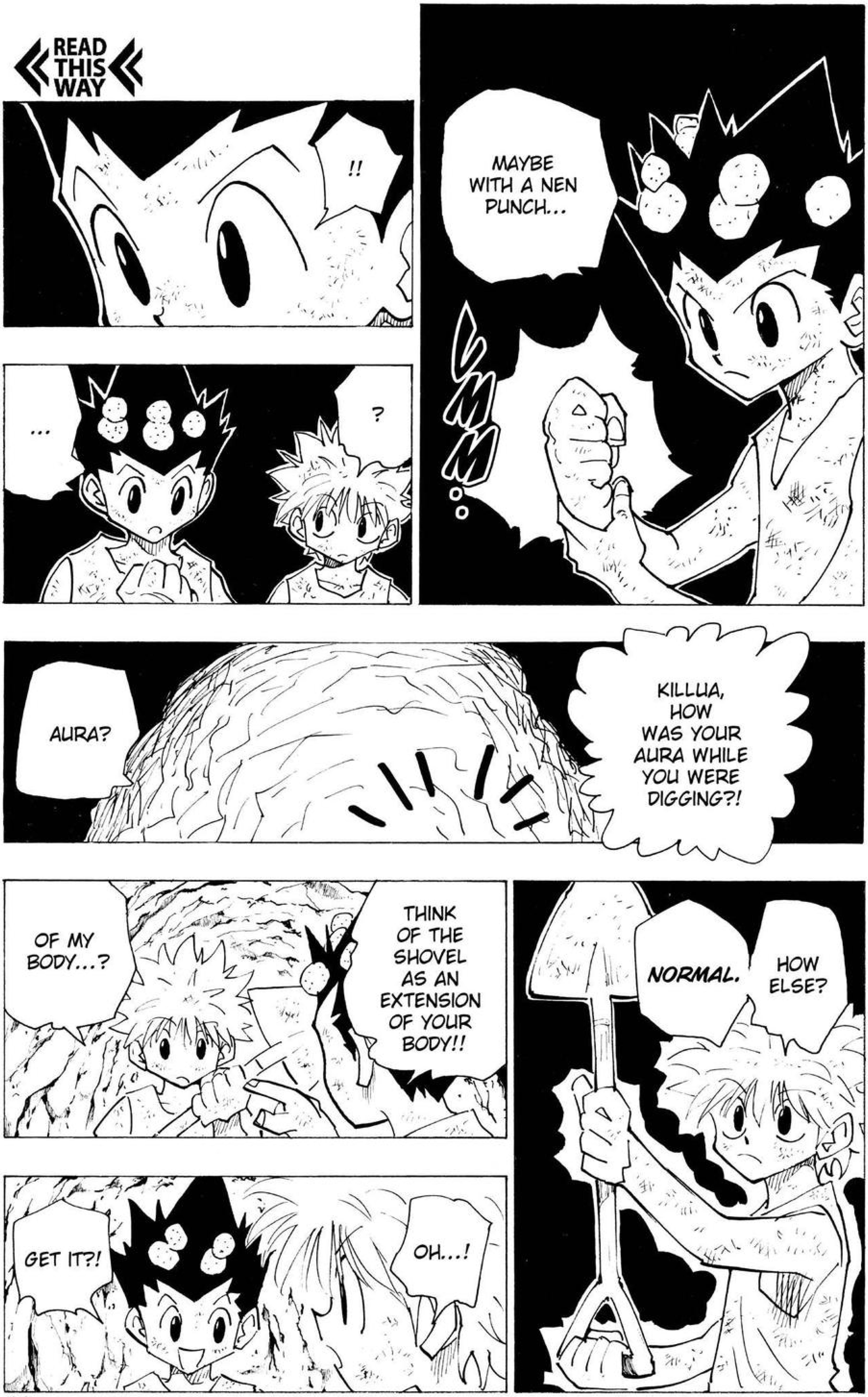

A ROCK...?
DON'T LET GO OF THE ROPE!
THIS IS HOW YOU'LL SLEEP.
KEEP A PART OF YOUR BRAIN EVER VIGILANT, EVEN AT REST!
I'LL ALSO THROW THIS KNIFE TO CUT THE ROPE ONCE IN A WHILE, THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT.
HOW DOES HE DO IT?
ZZ
I USED TO DO THIS AT HOME.
SLIP
BLINK
BONK!!

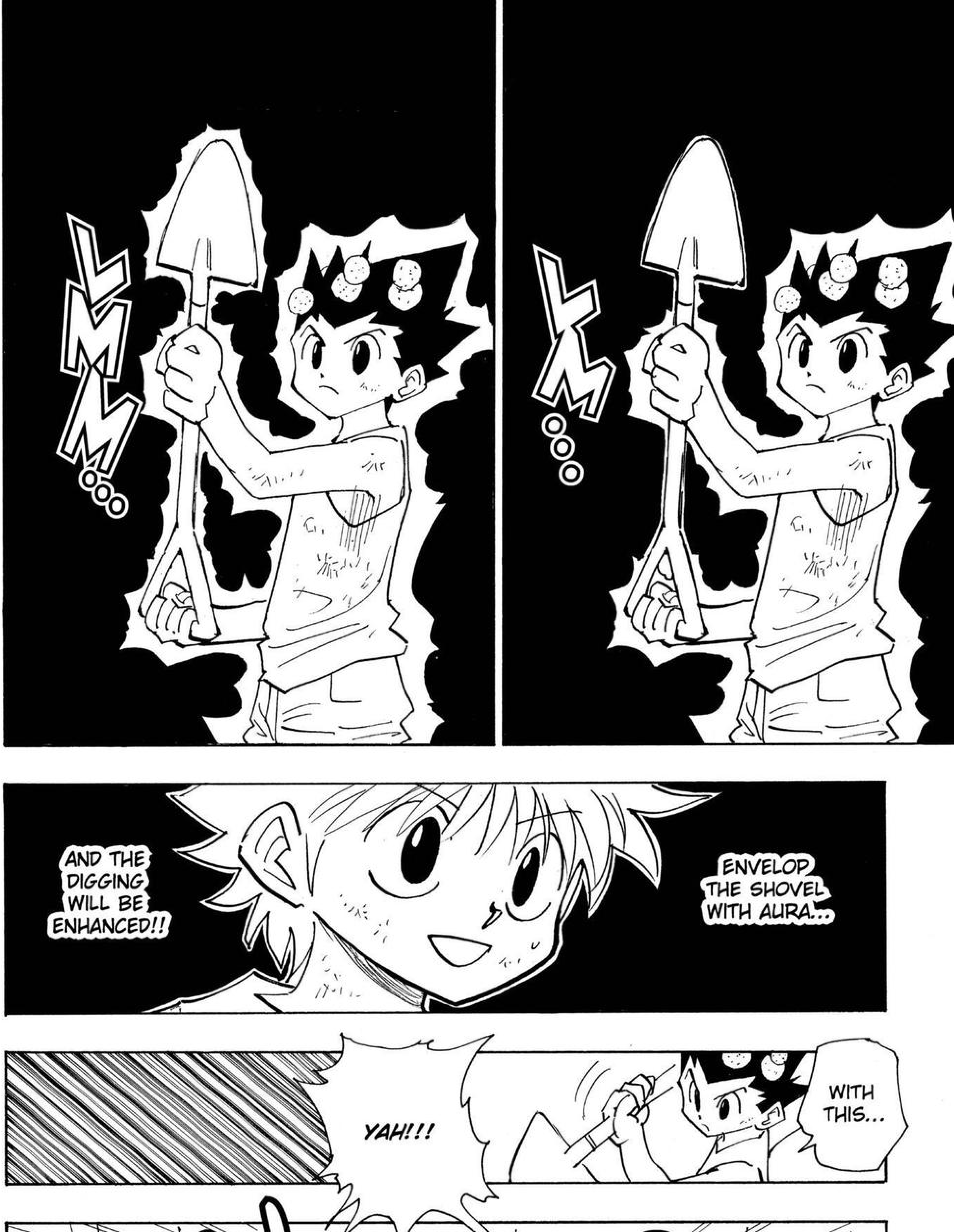
READ THIS WAY

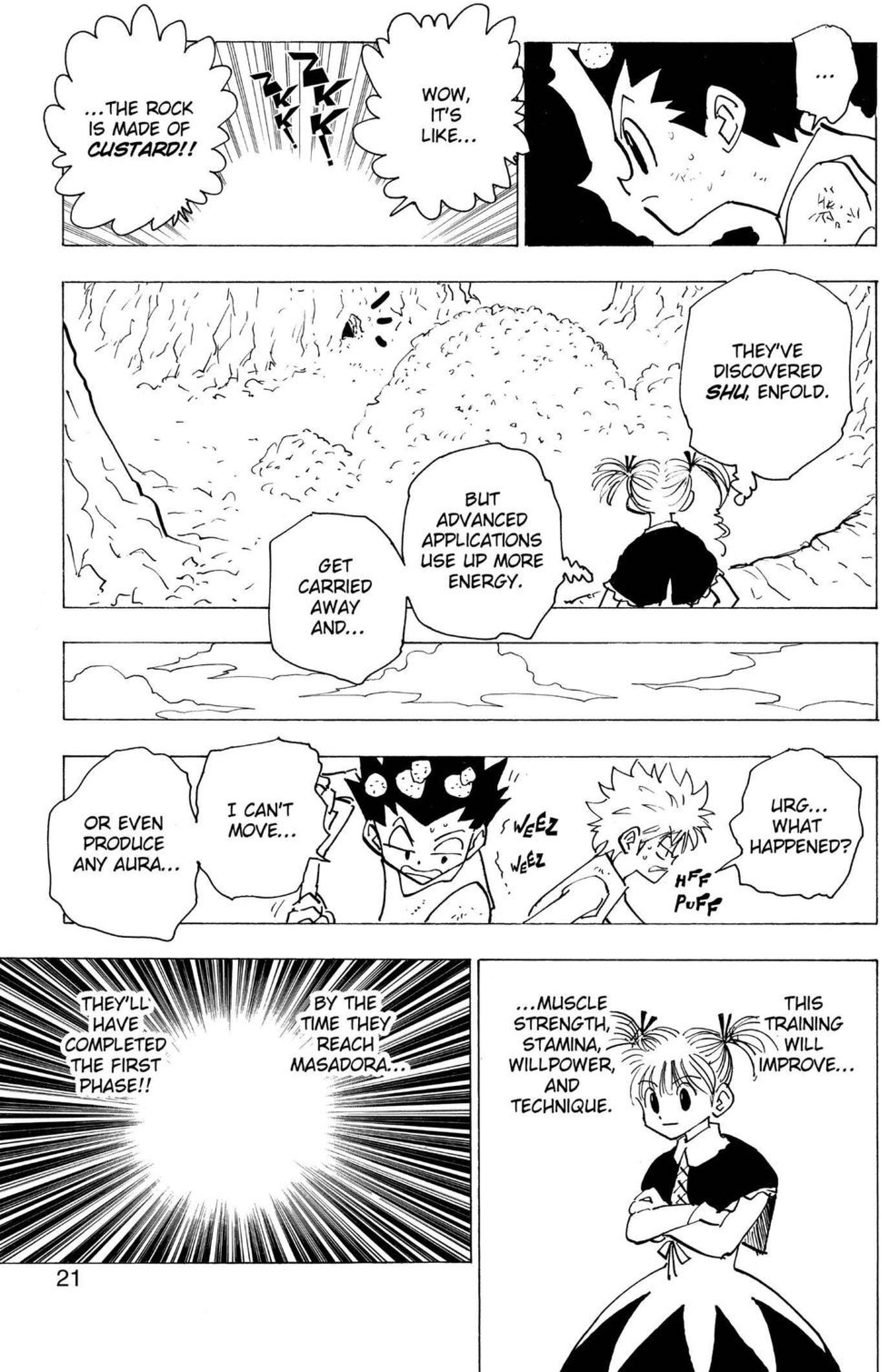

...!
PUT IT BACK UP YOURSELF!
ARGH...
OKAY, KEEP MY HOLD THIS TIME...
OW!
BONK!!
BONK!!
YOW!!
KLAKA
KLAKA
YOU DIDN'T SLEEP A WINK! TAKE IT EASY.
I'M FINE...!!
RATTLE
ZFF
ZFF
...
HUH?


...
THE ROCKS WILL GET BIGGER EACH DAY.
GON, I GAVE YOU EXTRA BECAUSE YOU WEREN'T TAKING IT SERIOUSLY ENOUGH!
IT WON'T BE TOO BAD...
YET.
KANG
OW!
WHAT'S WRONG?
I'VE HIT REALLY HARD ROCK.
CAN YOU GET THROUGH?
HMM, PROBABLY NOT WITH A SHOVEL.

READ THIS WAY

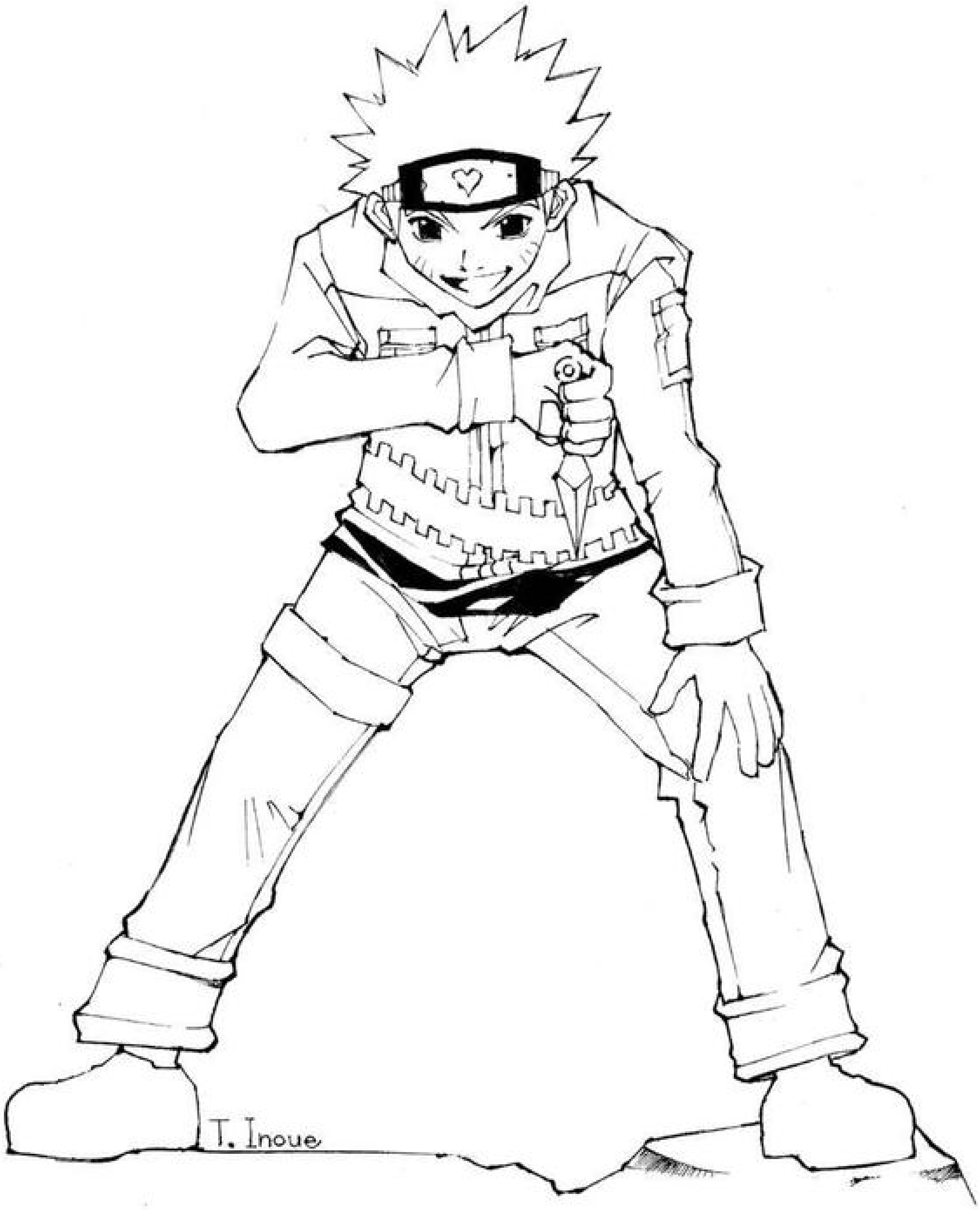

MAYBE WITH A NEN PUNCH...
UMMM...
!!
?
...
KILLUA, HOW WAS YOUR AURA WHILE YOU WERE DIGGING?!
AURA?
HOW ELSE?
NORMAL.
THINK OF THE SHOVEL AS AN EXTENSION OF YOUR BODY!!
OF MY BODY...?
OH...!
GET IT?!


VMM...
VMMM...
ENVELOP THE SHOVEL WITH AURA...
AND THE DIGGING WILL BE ENHANCED!!
WITH THIS...
YAH!!!
ZLSH!!

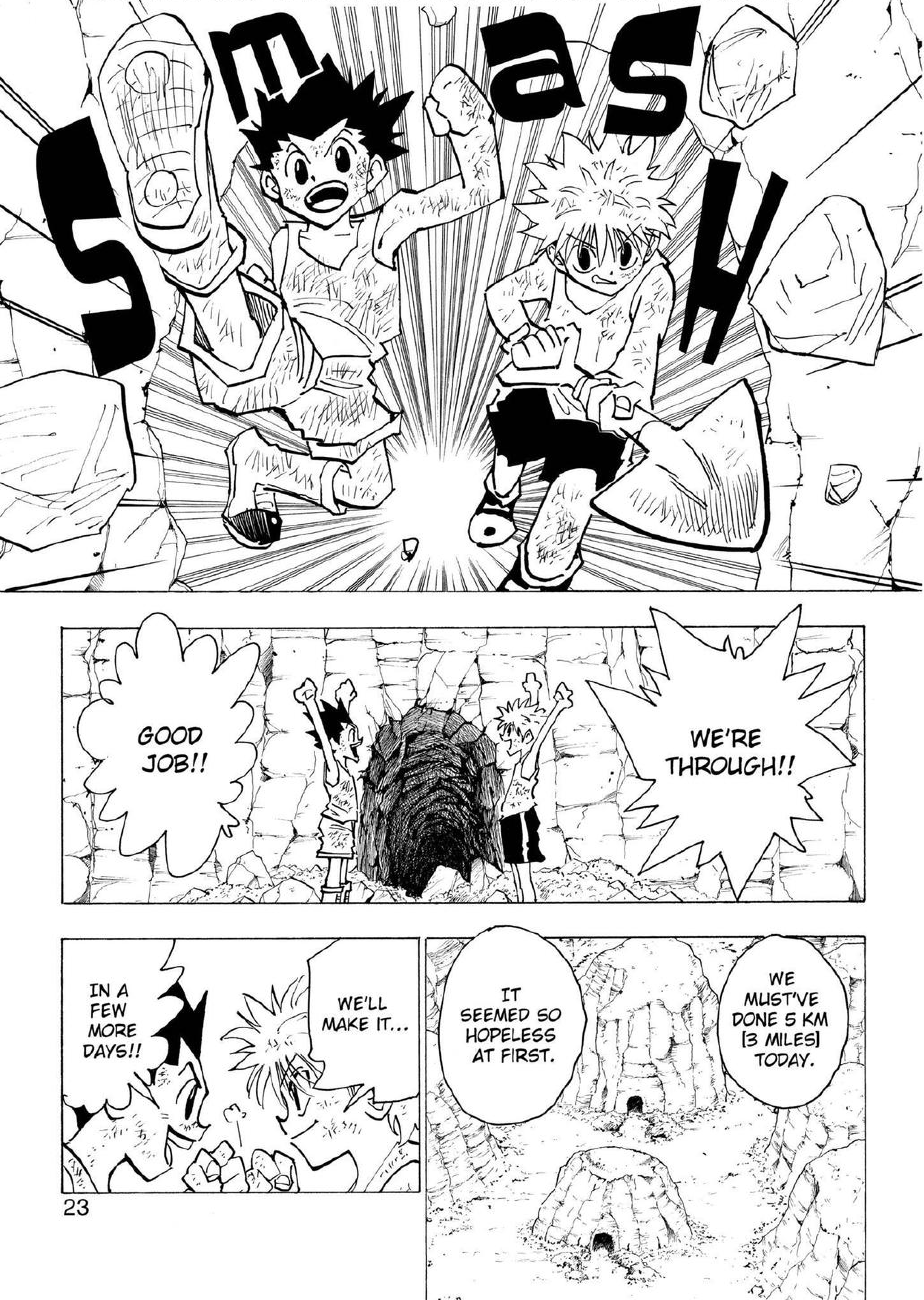

...
HK
WOW, IT'S LIKE...
ZK ZK
...THE ROCK IS MADE OF *CUSTARD!!*
THEY'VE DISCOVERED *SHU*, ENFOLD.
BUT ADVANCED APPLICATIONS USE UP MORE ENERGY.
GET CARRIED AWAY AND...
URG... WHAT HAPPENED?
HFF PUFF
WEEZ WEEZ
I CAN'T MOVE...
OR EVEN PRODUCE ANY AURA...
THIS TRAINING WILL IMPROVE...
...MUSCLE STRENGTH, STAMINA, WILLPOWER, AND TECHNIQUE.
BY THE TIME THEY REACH MASADORA...
THEY'LL HAVE COMPLETED THE FIRST PHASE!!

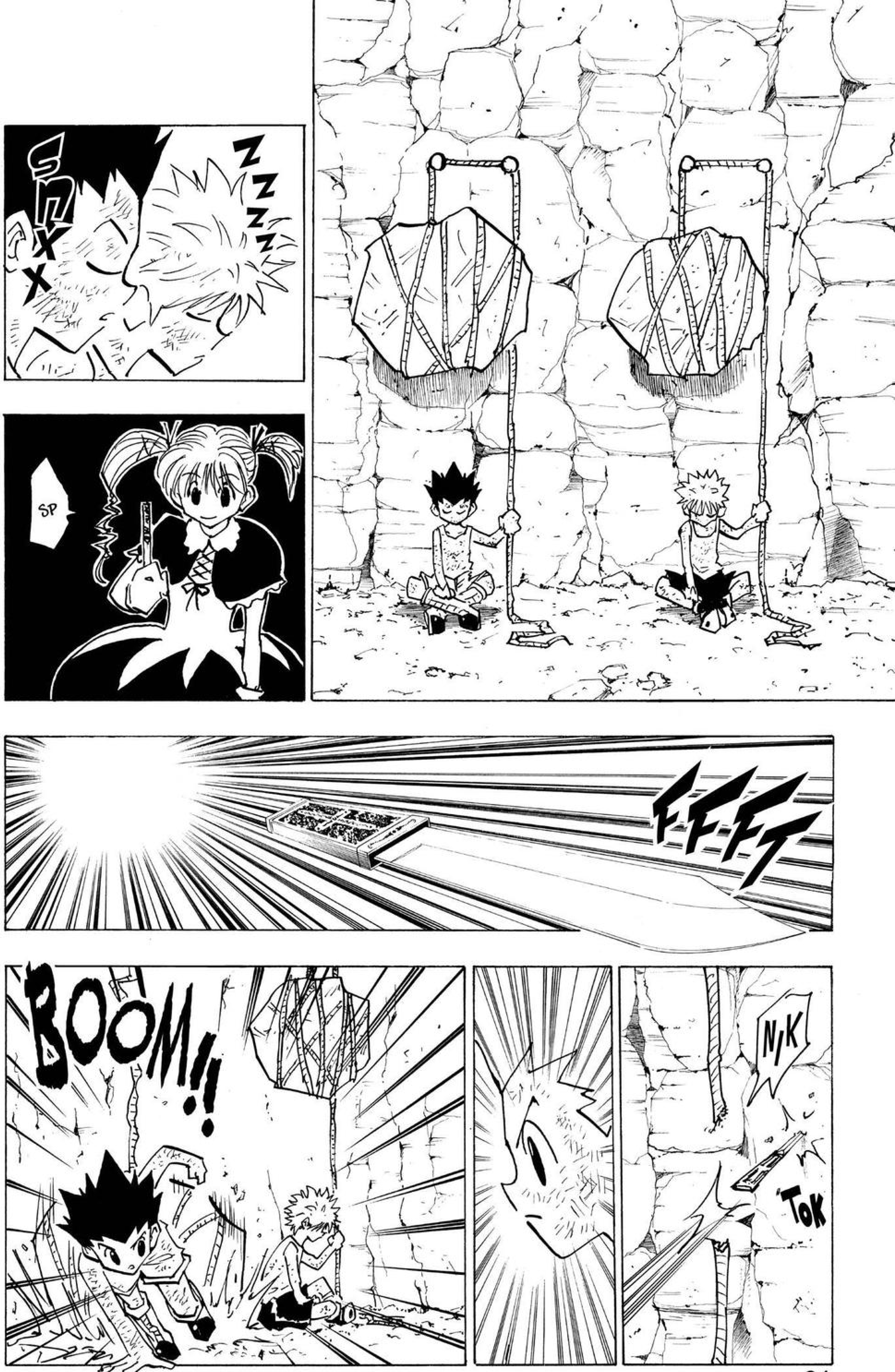
Draw without looking: part 2

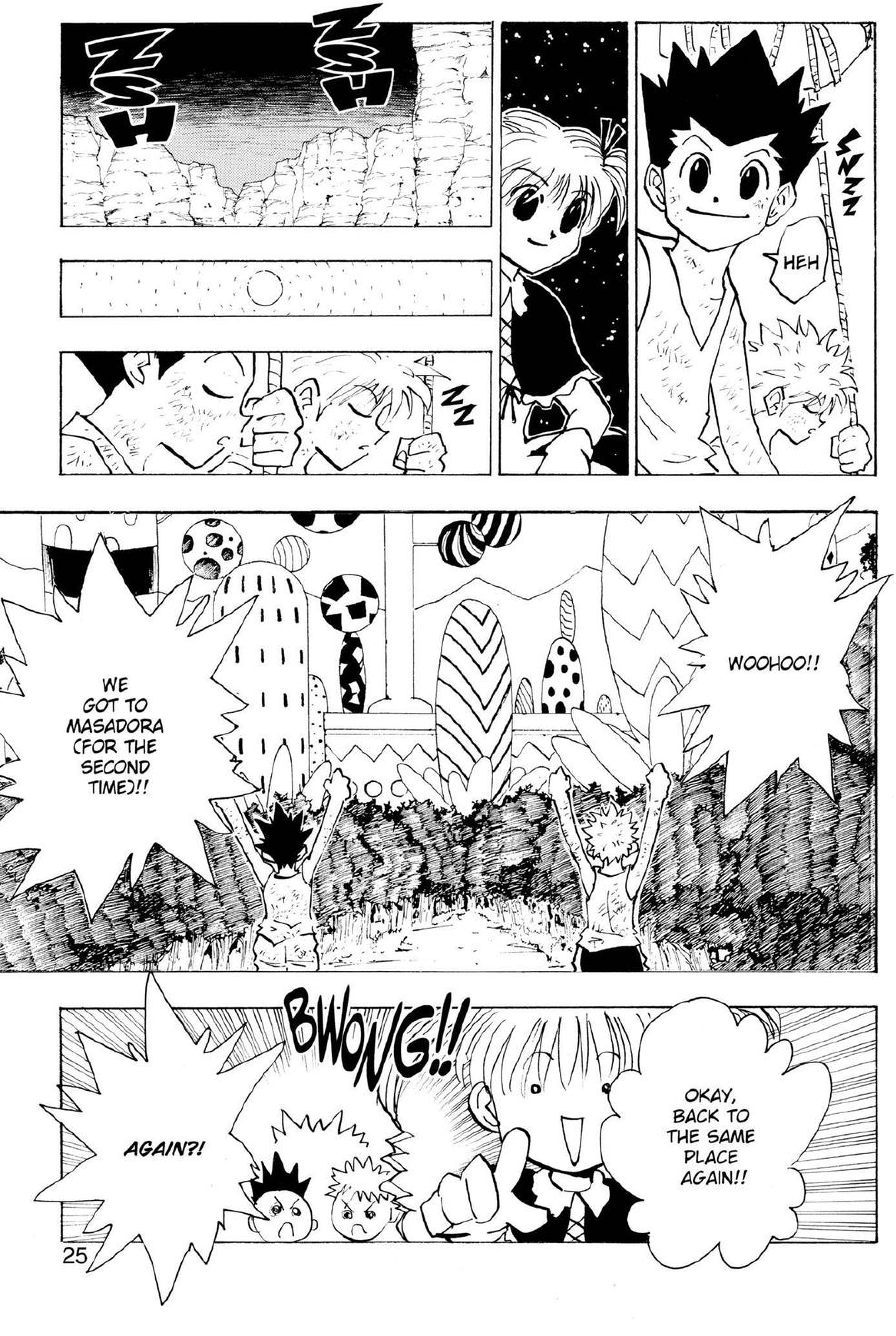
Naruto

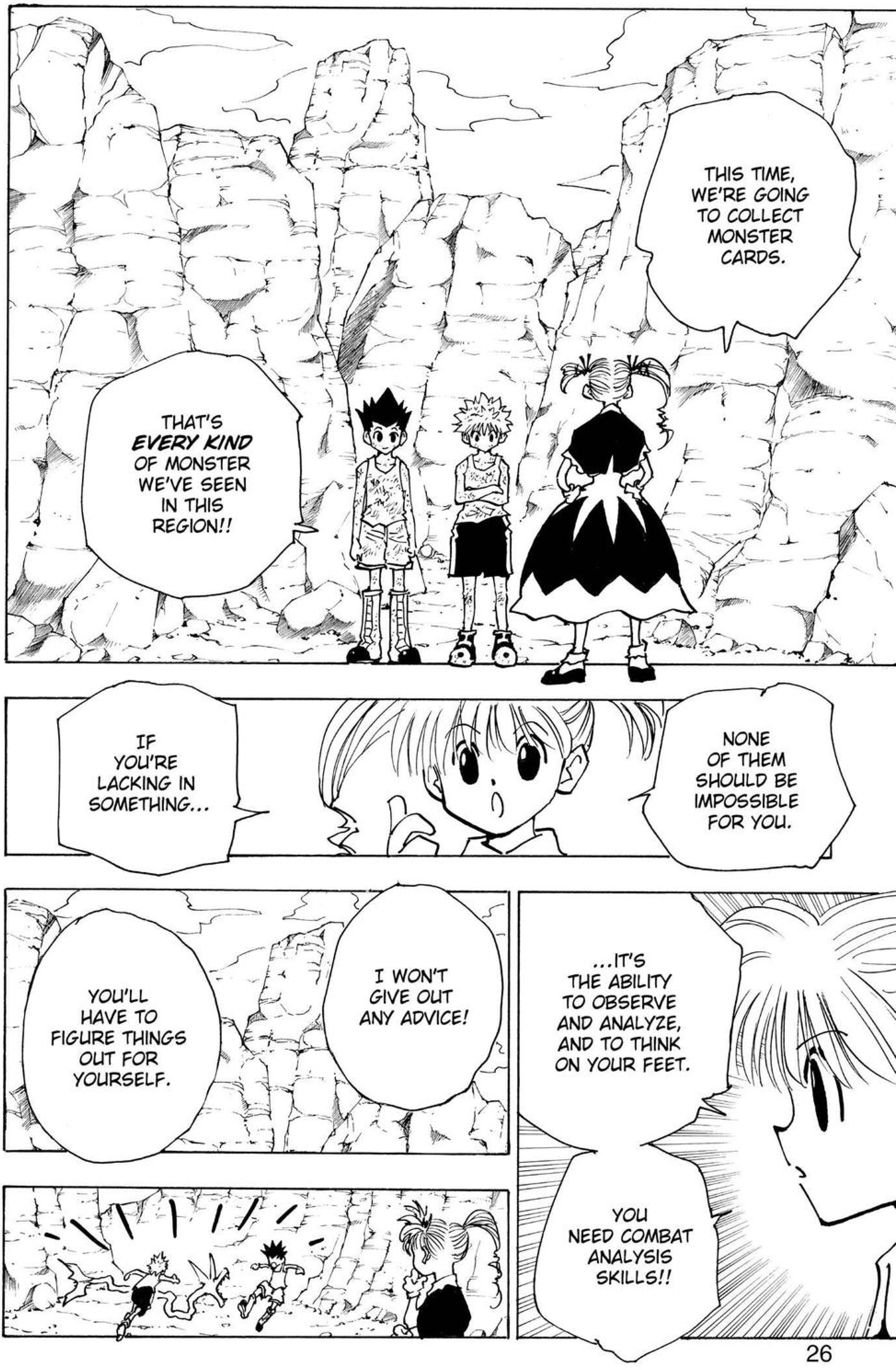


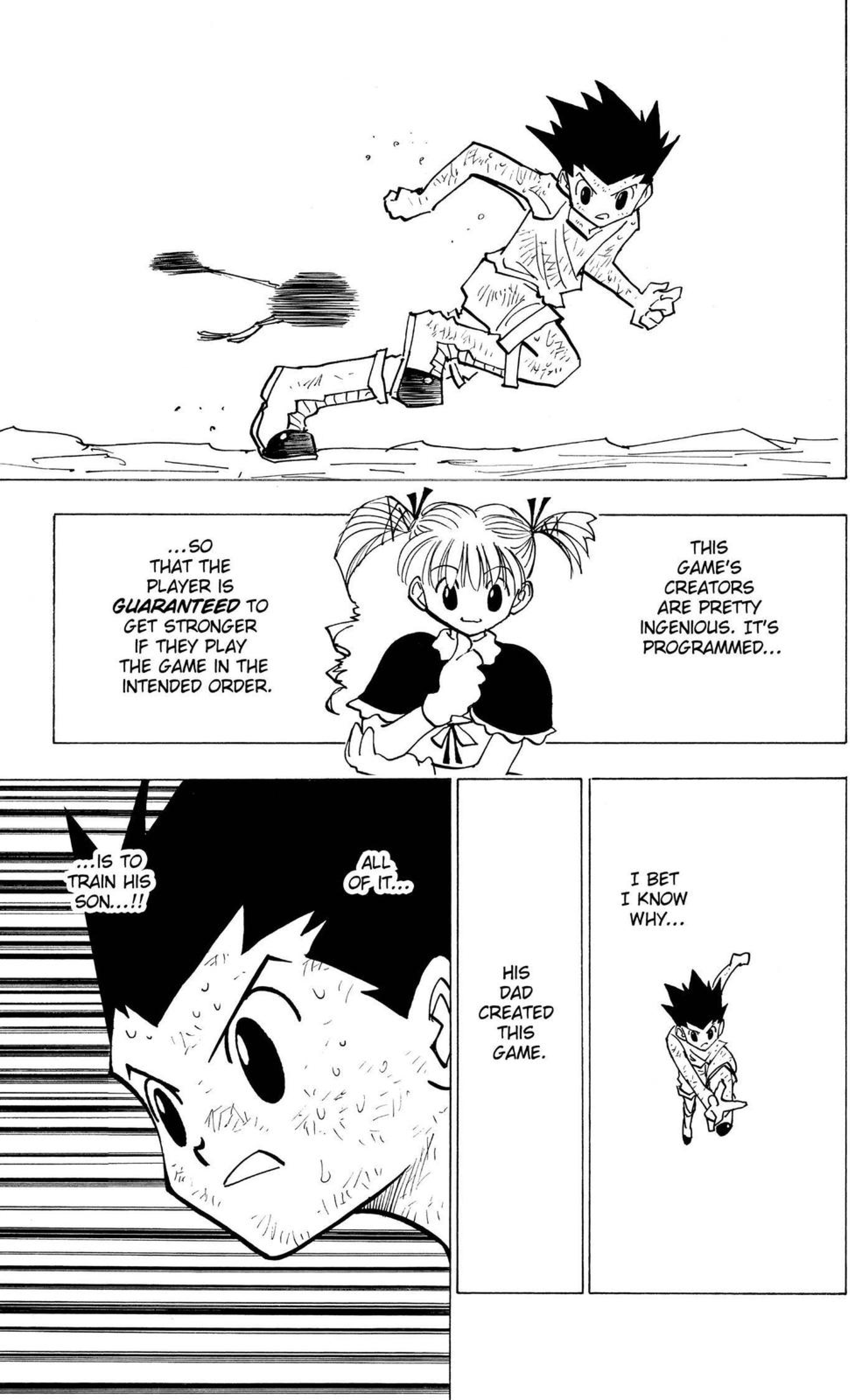
CHAPTER 141: THEY WENT TO MASADORA ALREADY, SO I'LL GO WITH A DIFFERENT TITLE NOW

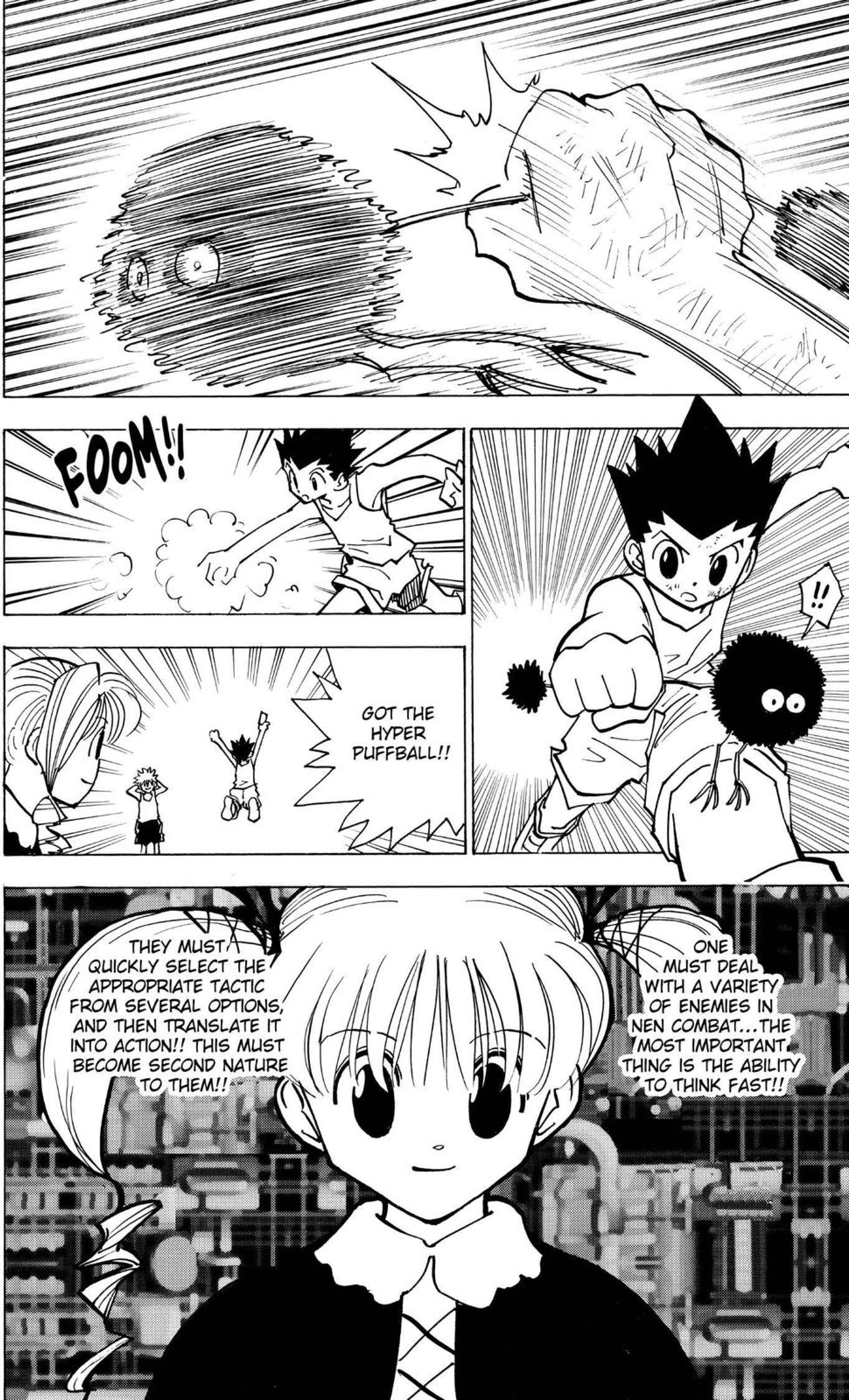

SMASH
WE'RE THROUGH!!
GOOD JOB!!
WE MUST'VE DONE 5 KM [3 MILES] TODAY.
IT SEEMED SO HOPELESS AT FIRST.
WE'LL MAKE IT...
IN A FEW MORE DAYS!!


ZZZZZ
SNXX
SP
FFFT
NIK
TOK
BOOM!!

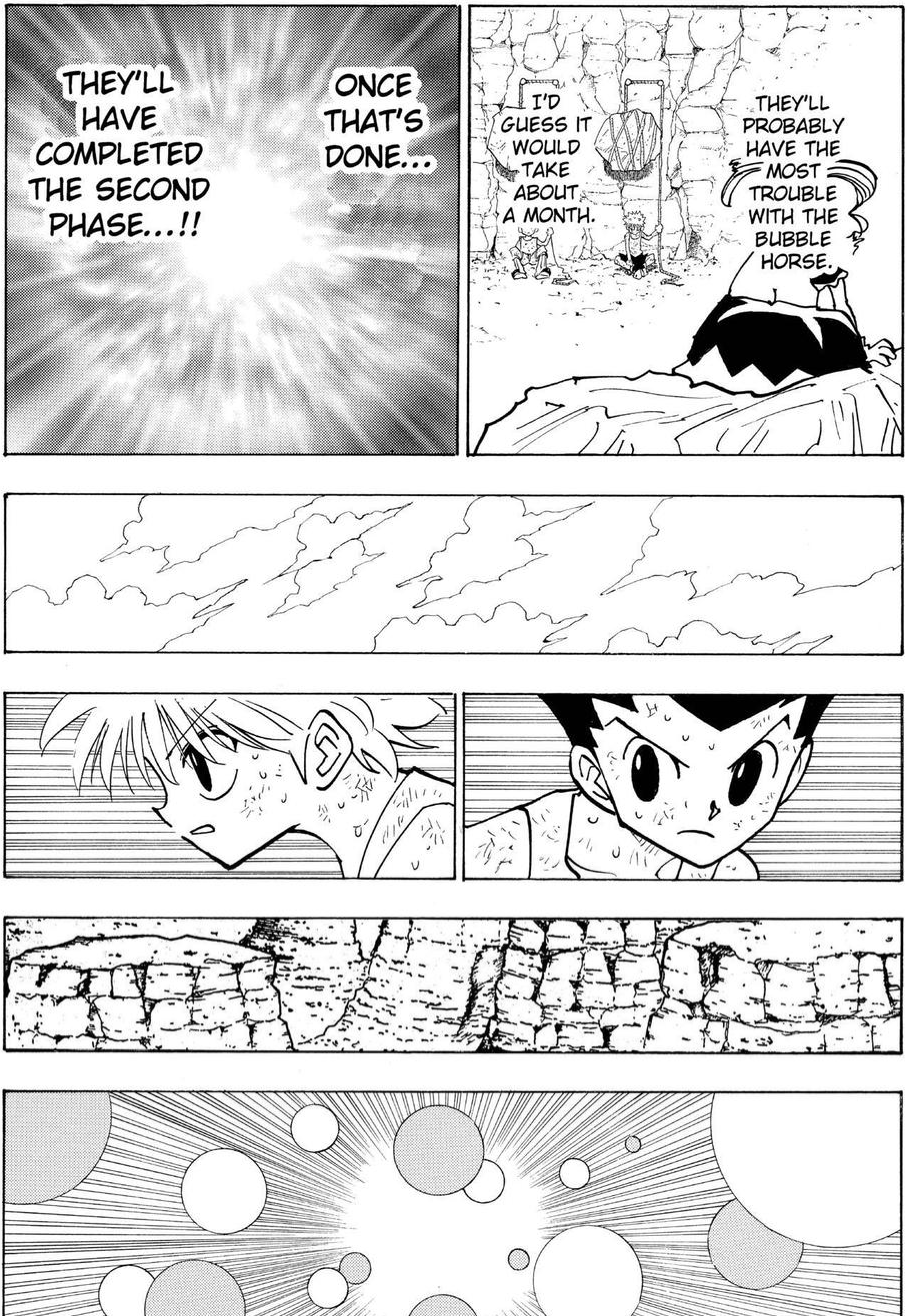

ZZZZ
HEH
ZZSH
ZZSH
ZZ
WOOHOO!!
WE GOT TO MASADORA (FOR THE SECOND TIME)!!
OKAY, BACK TO THE SAME PLACE AGAIN!!
BWONG!!
AGAIN?!

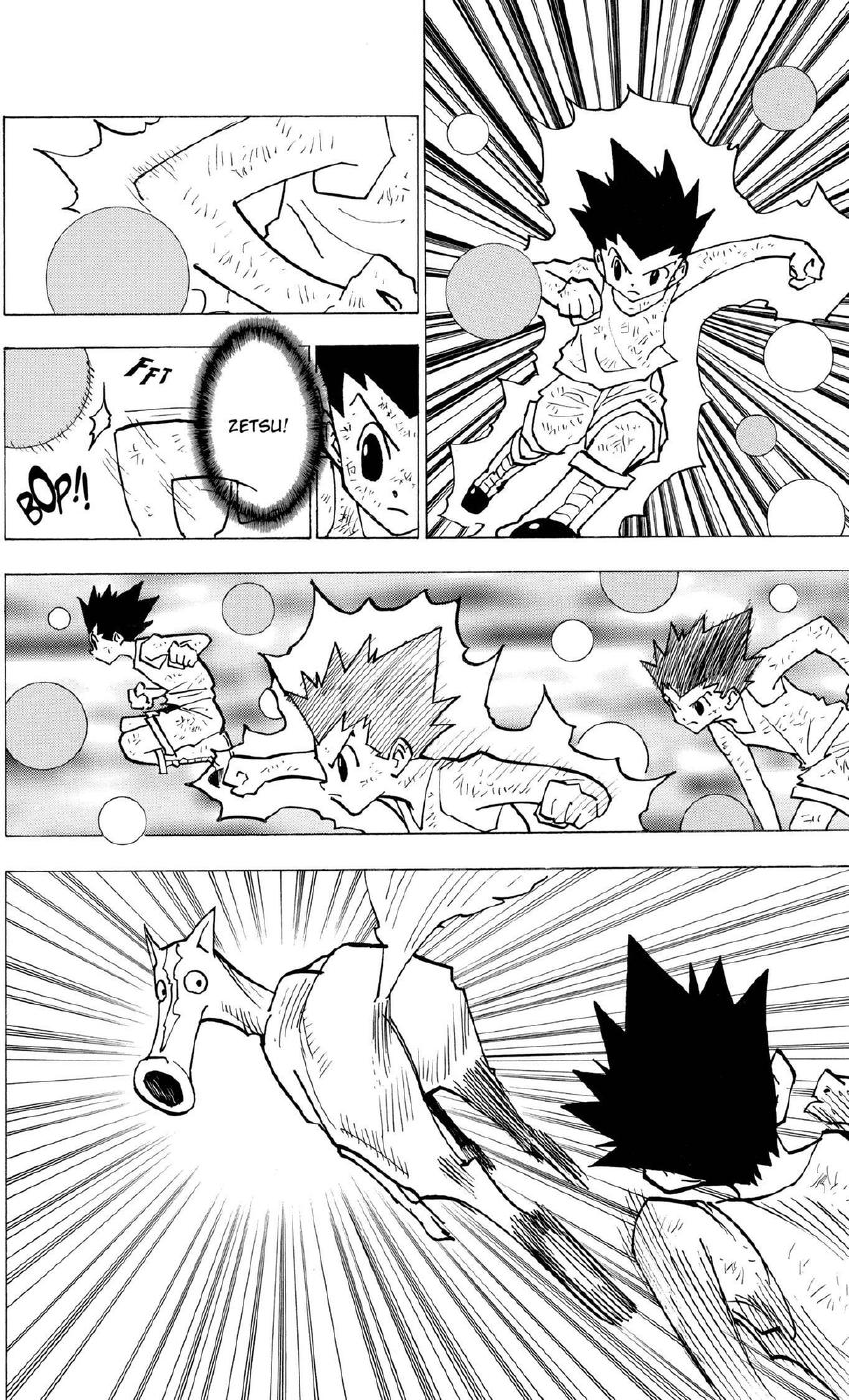

THIS TIME, WE'RE GOING TO COLLECT MONSTER CARDS.
THAT'S ***EVERY KIND*** OF MONSTER WE'VE SEEN IN THIS REGION!!
NONE OF THEM SHOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR YOU.
IF YOU'RE LACKING IN SOMETHING...
...IT'S THE ABILITY TO OBSERVE AND ANALYZE, AND TO THINK ON YOUR FEET.
YOU NEED COMBAT ANALYSIS SKILLS!!
I WON'T GIVE OUT ANY ADVICE!
YOU'LL HAVE TO FIGURE THINGS OUT FOR YOURSELF.

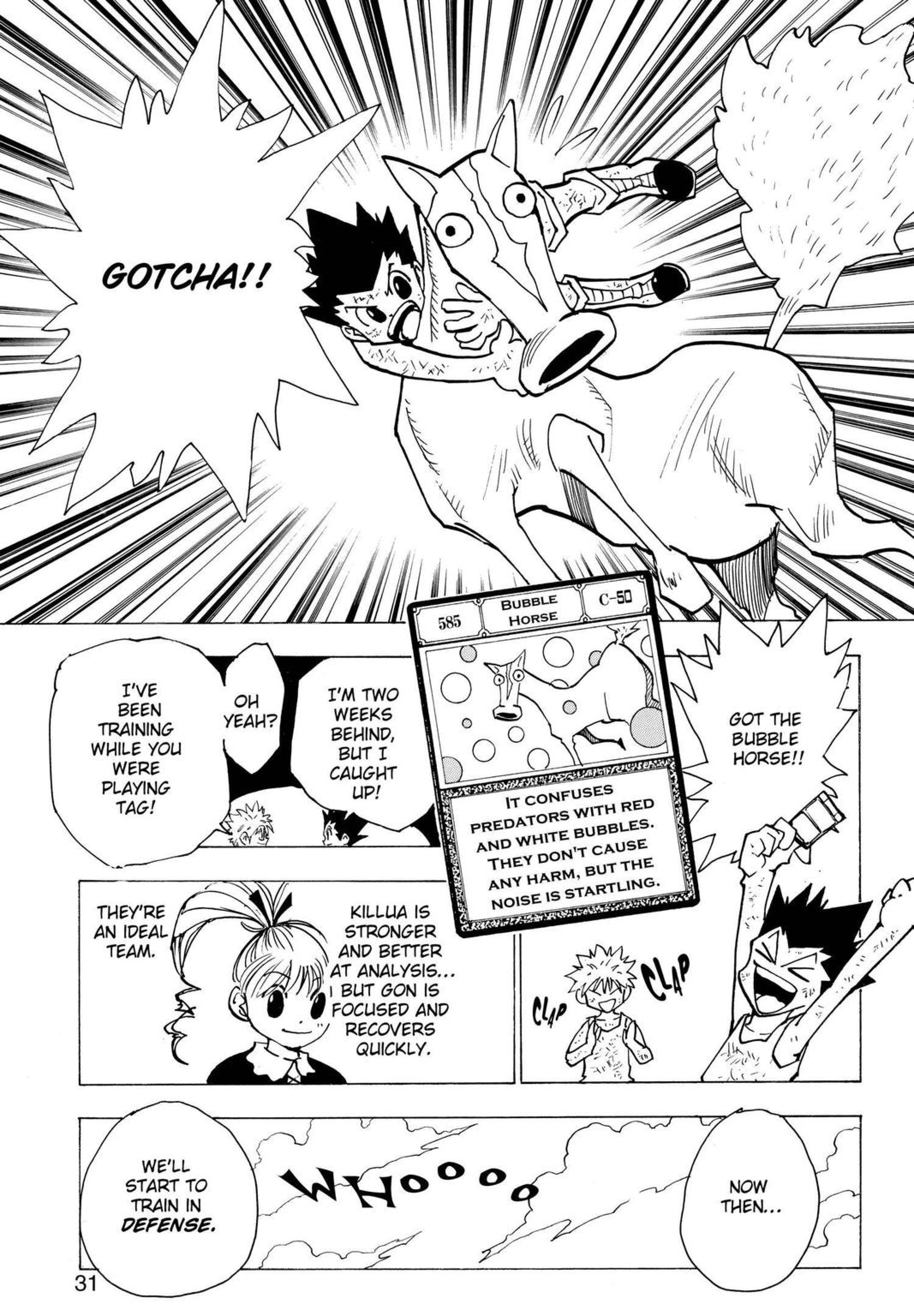

THIS GAME'S CREATORS ARE PRETTY INGENIOUS. IT'S PROGRAMMED...
...SO THAT THE PLAYER IS **GUARANTEED** TO GET STRONGER IF THEY PLAY THE GAME IN THE INTENDED ORDER.
I BET I KNOW WHY...
HIS DAD CREATED THIS GAME.
ALL OF IT...
...IS TO TRAIN HIS SON...!!

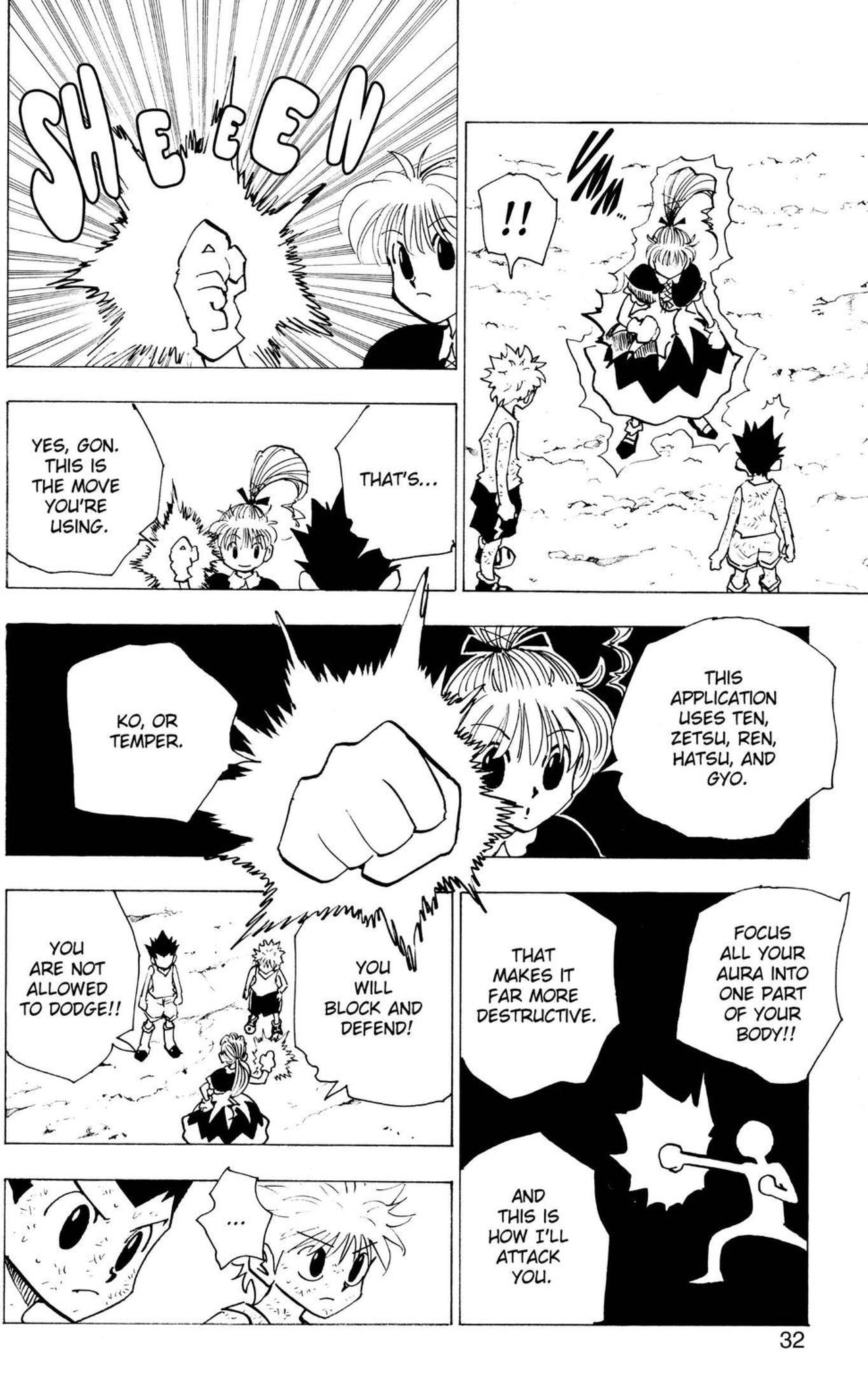

!!
FOOM!!
GOT THE HYPER PUFFBALL!!
ONE MUST DEAL WITH A VARIETY OF ENEMIES IN NEN COMBAT...THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IS THE ABILITY TO THINK FAST!!
THEY MUST QUICKLY SELECT THE APPROPRIATE TACTIC FROM SEVERAL OPTIONS, AND THEN TRANSLATE IT INTO ACTION!! THIS MUST BECOME SECOND NATURE TO THEM!!

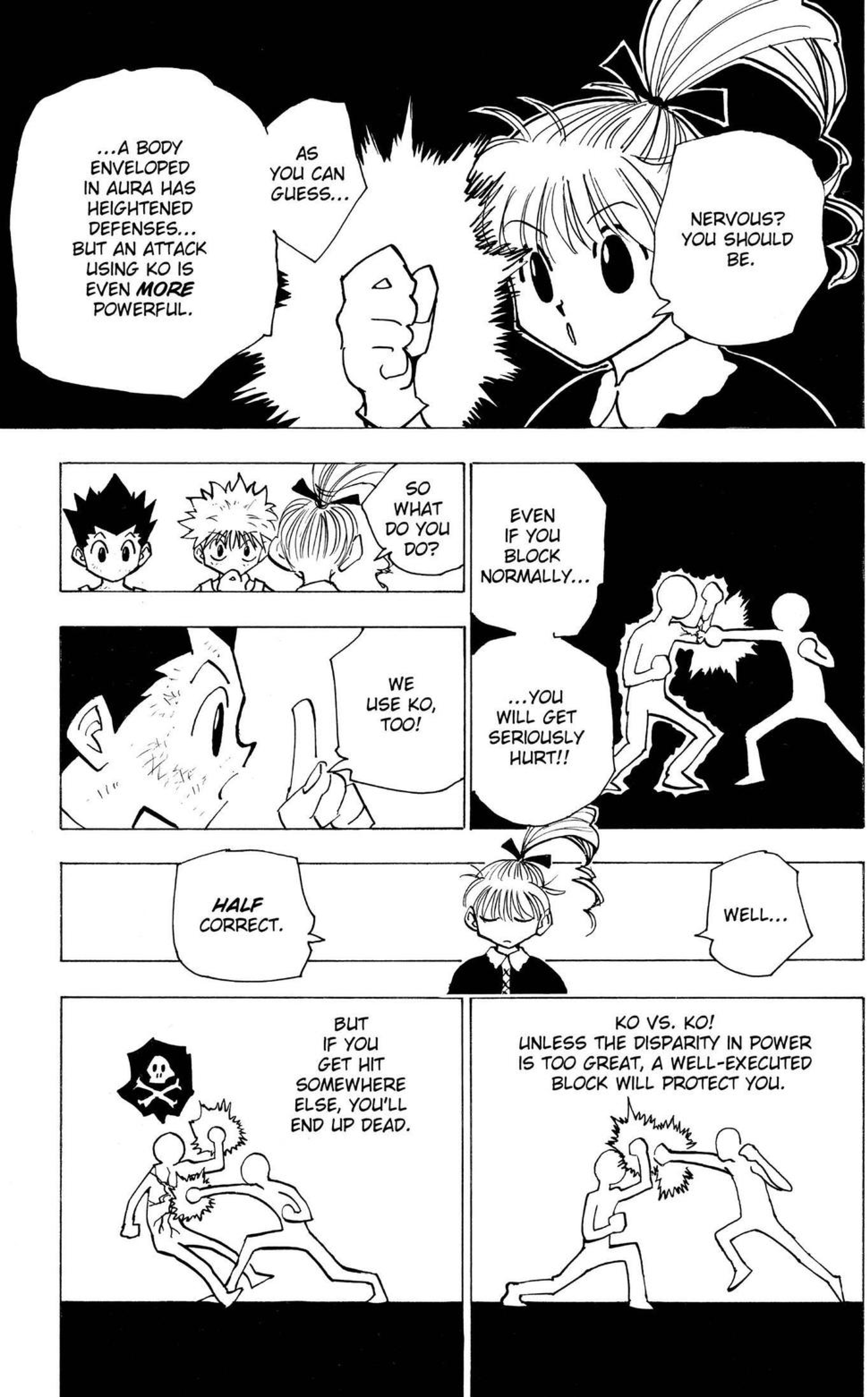
READ THIS WAY

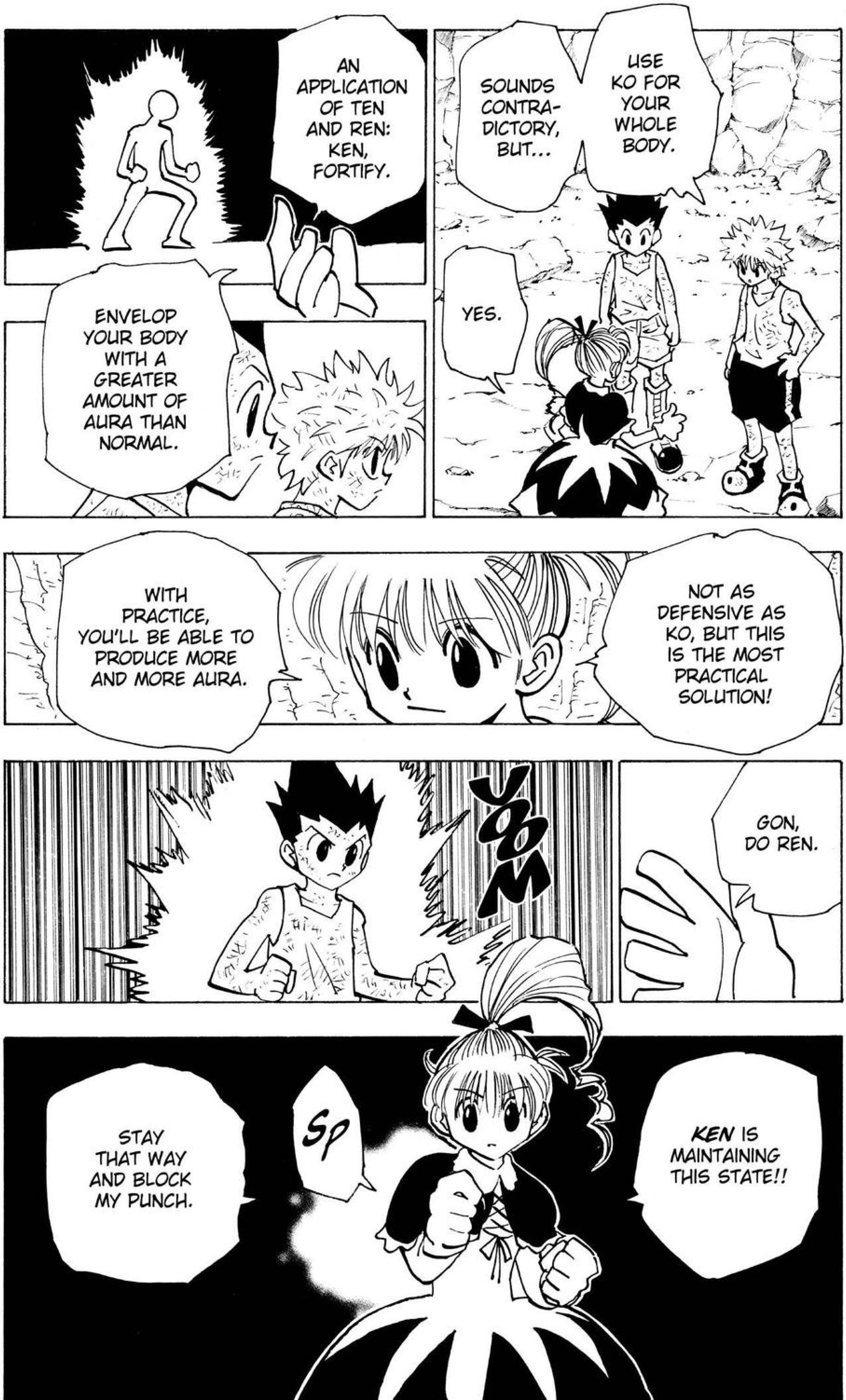

THEY'LL PROBABLY HAVE THE MOST TROUBLE WITH THE BUBBLE HORSE.
I'D GUESS IT WOULD TAKE ABOUT A MONTH.
ONCE THAT'S DONE...
THEY'LL HAVE COMPLETED THE SECOND PHASE...!!

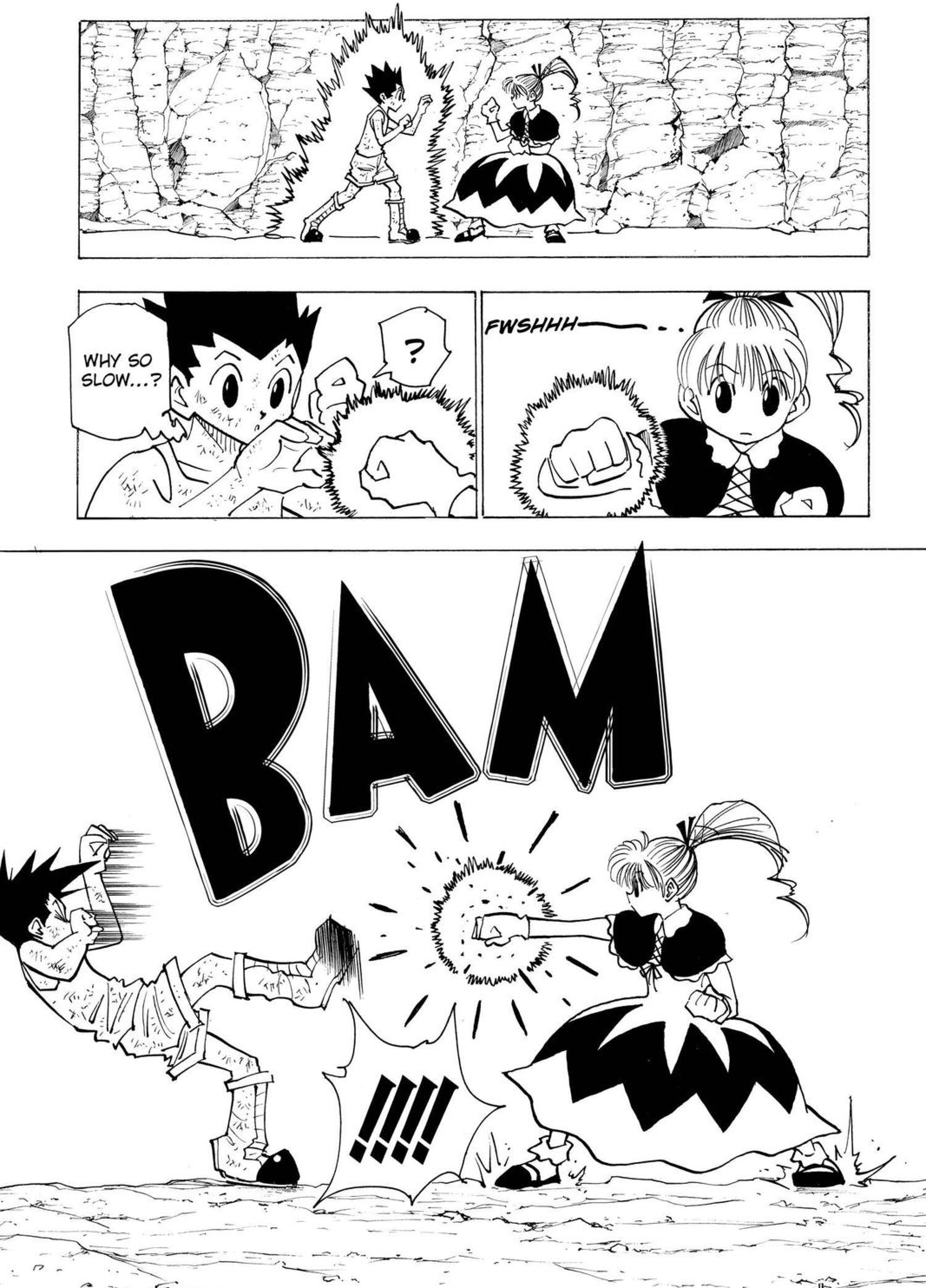

ZETSU!
FFT
BOP!!

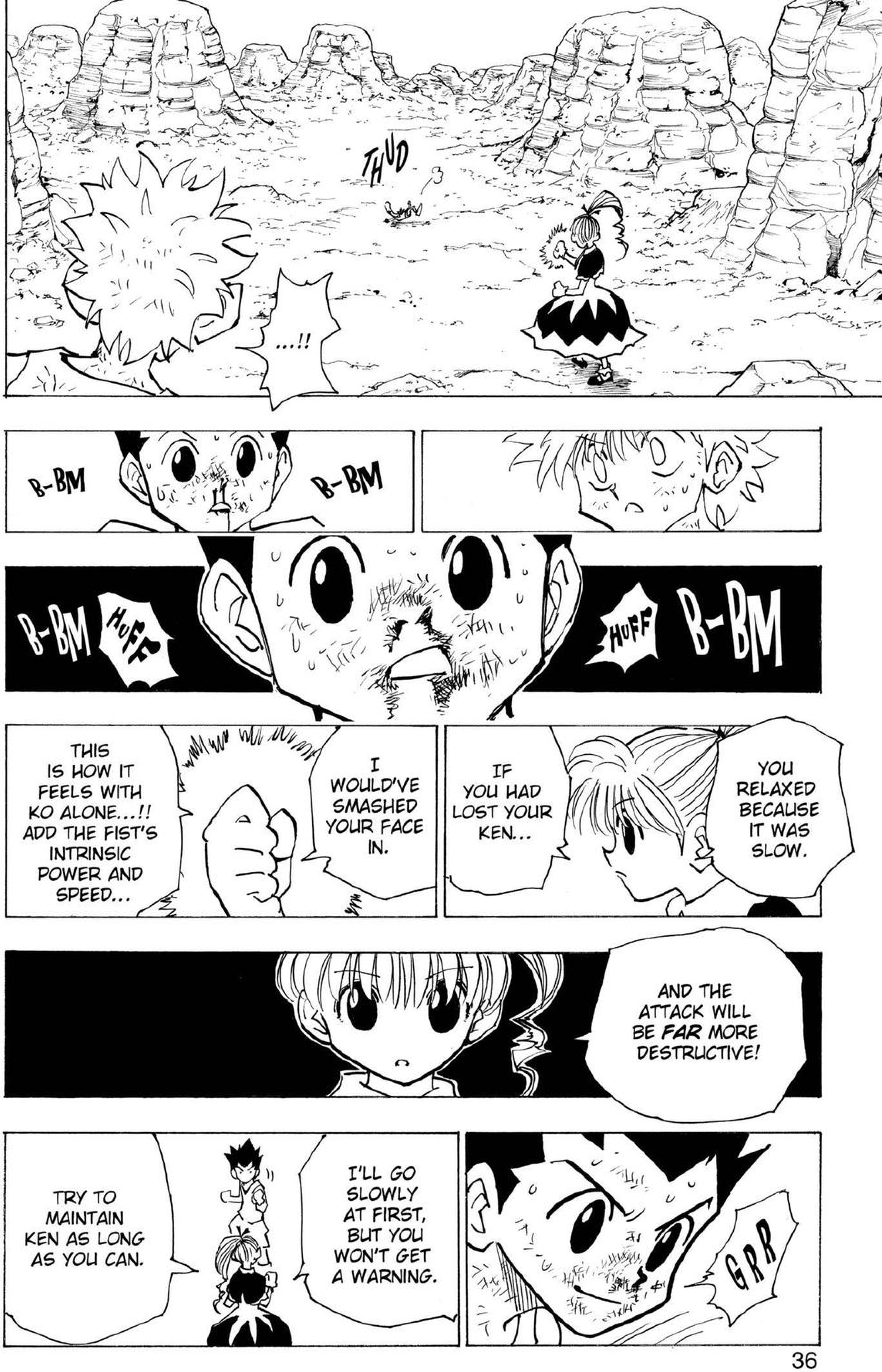

GOTCHA!!
585
BUBBLE HORSE
C-50
It confuses predators with red and white bubbles. They don't cause any harm, but the noise is startling.
GOT THE BUBBLE HORSE!!
CLAP
CLAP
I'M TWO WEEKS BEHIND, BUT I CAUGHT UP!
OH YEAH?
I'VE BEEN TRAINING WHILE YOU WERE PLAYING TAG!
KILLUA IS STRONGER AND BETTER AT ANALYSIS... BUT GON IS FOCUSED AND RECOVERS QUICKLY.
THEY'RE AN IDEAL TEAM.
NOW THEN...
WHOOOOO
WE'LL START TO TRAIN IN *DEFENSE.*

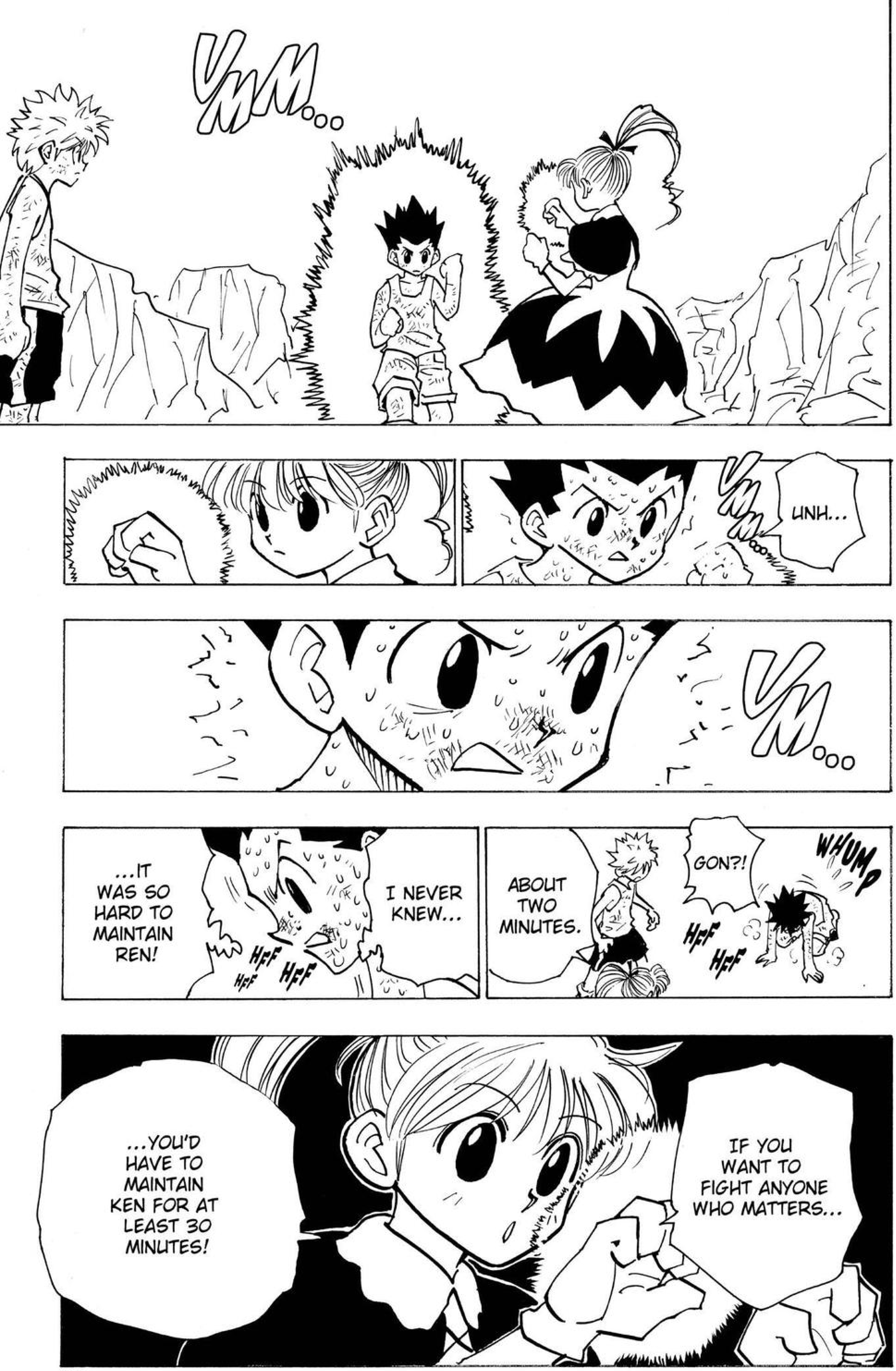

VMM...
!!
SHEEEN
THAT'S...
YES, GON. THIS IS THE MOVE YOU'RE USING.
THIS APPLICATION USES TEN, ZETSU, REN, HATSU, AND GYO.
KO, OR TEMPER.
FOCUS ALL YOUR AURA INTO ONE PART OF YOUR BODY!!
THAT MAKES IT FAR MORE DESTRUCTIVE.
AND THIS IS HOW I'LL ATTACK YOU.
YOU WILL BLOCK AND DEFEND!
YOU ARE NOT ALLOWED TO DODGE!!
...


NERVOUS? YOU SHOULD BE.
AS YOU CAN GUESS...
...A BODY ENVELOPED IN AURA HAS HEIGHTENED DEFENSES... BUT AN ATTACK USING KO IS EVEN MORE POWERFUL.
EVEN IF YOU BLOCK NORMALLY...
...YOU WILL GET SERIOUSLY HURT!!
SO WHAT DO YOU DO?
WE USE KO, TOO!
WELL...
HALF CORRECT.
KO VS. KO! UNLESS THE DISPARITY IN POWER IS TOO GREAT, A WELL-EXECUTED BLOCK WILL PROTECT YOU.
BUT IF YOU GET HIT SOMEWHERE ELSE, YOU'LL END UP DEAD.

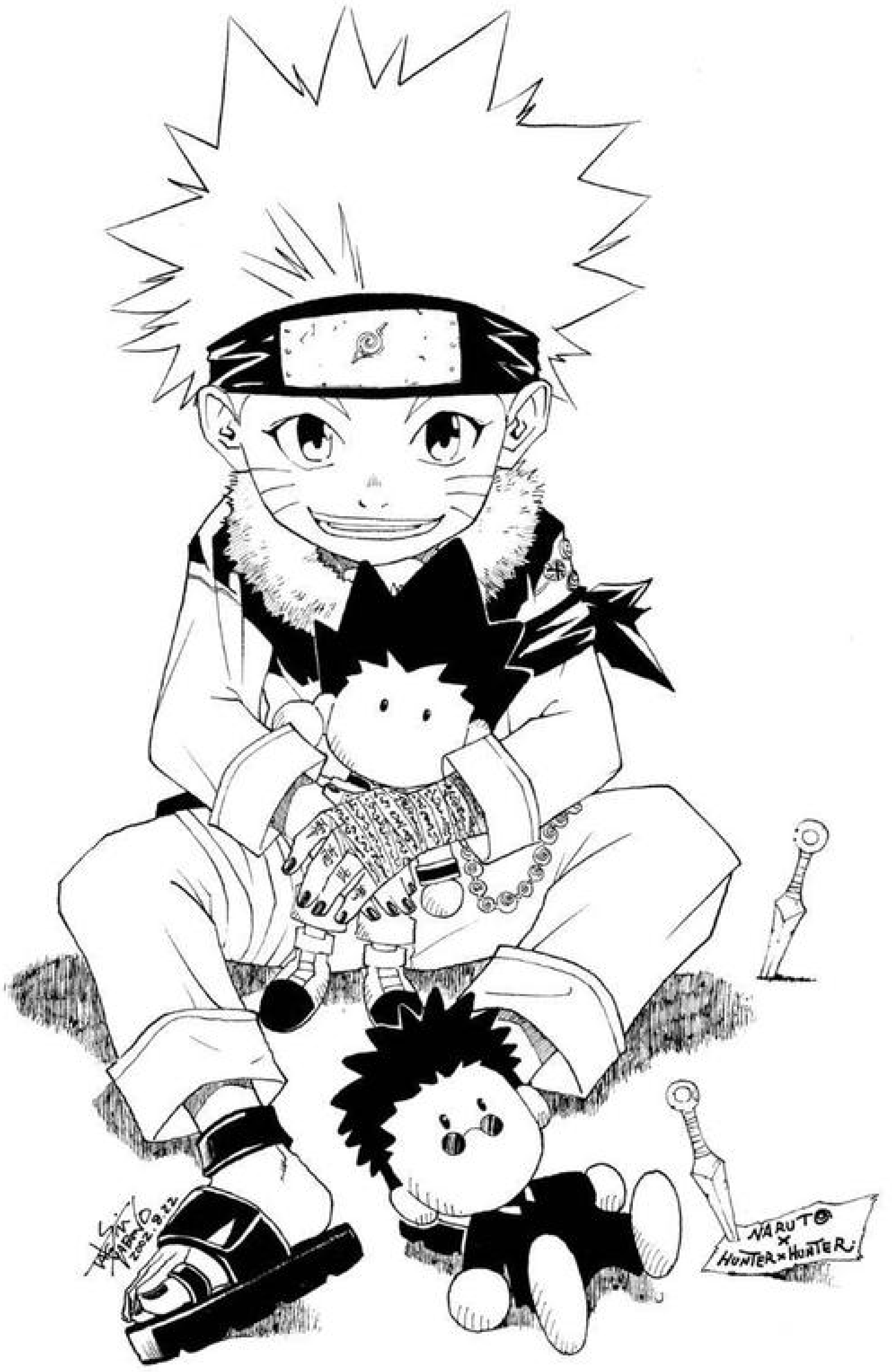

USE KO FOR YOUR WHOLE BODY.
SOUNDS CONTRADICTORY, BUT…
YES.
AN APPLICATION OF TEN AND REN: KEN, FORTIFY.
ENVELOP YOUR BODY WITH A GREATER AMOUNT OF AURA THAN NORMAL.
NOT AS DEFENSIVE AS KO, BUT THIS IS THE MOST PRACTICAL SOLUTION!
WITH PRACTICE, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO PRODUCE MORE AND MORE AURA.
GON, DO REN.
YOOM
KEN IS MAINTAINING THIS STATE!!
SP
STAY THAT WAY AND BLOCK MY PUNCH.


FWSHHH———..
?
WHY SO SLOW...?
BAM
!!!!!

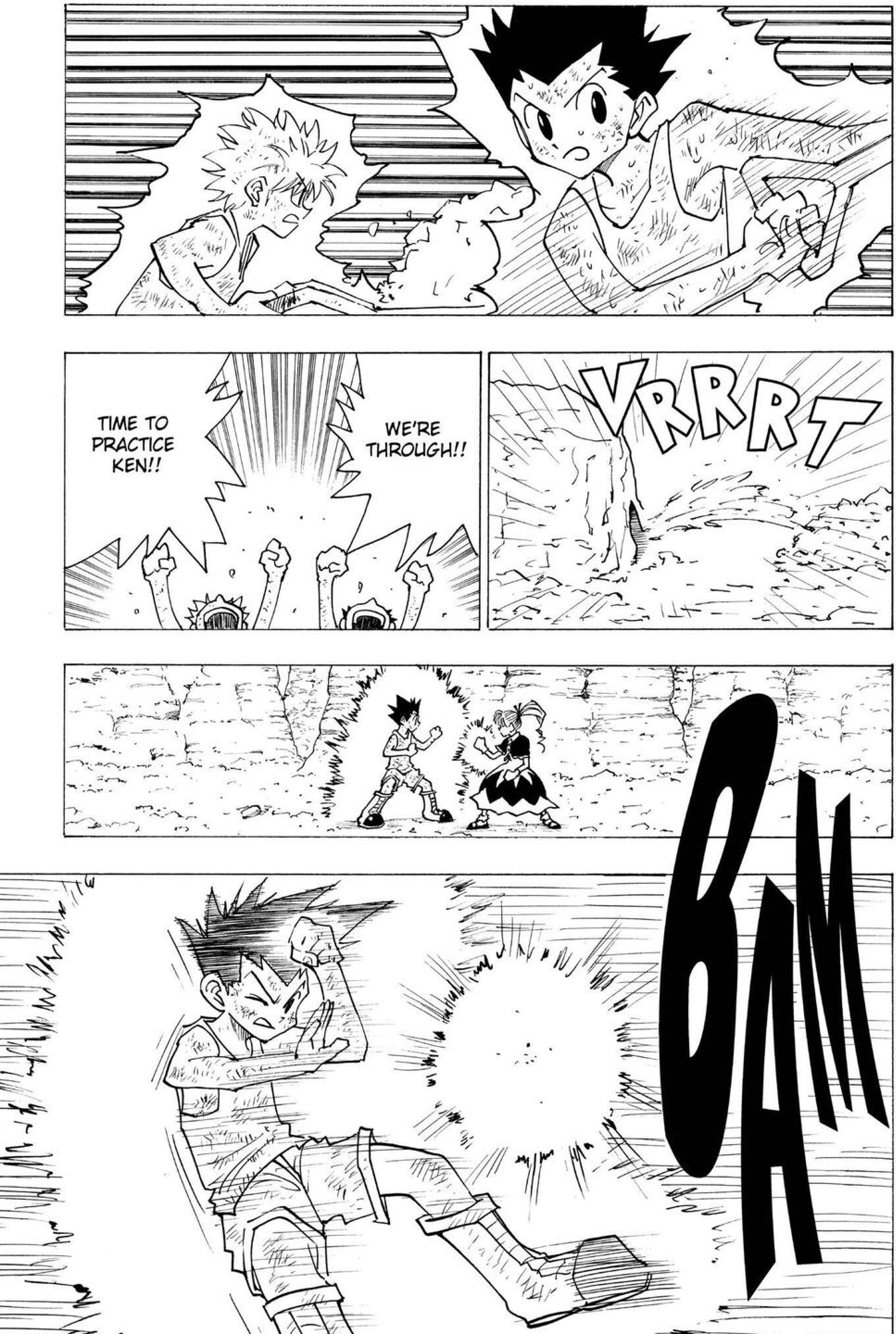

THUD
...!!
B-BM
B-BM
B-BM
HUFF
HUFF
B-BM
YOU RELAXED BECAUSE IT WAS SLOW.
IF YOU HAD LOST YOUR KEN...
I WOULD'VE SMASHED YOUR FACE IN.
THIS IS HOW IT FEELS WITH KO ALONE...!! ADD THE FIST'S INTRINSIC POWER AND SPEED...
AND THE ATTACK WILL BE *FAR* MORE DESTRUCTIVE!
GRR
I'LL GO SLOWLY AT FIRST, BUT YOU WON'T GET A WARNING.
TRY TO MAINTAIN KEN AS LONG AS YOU CAN.

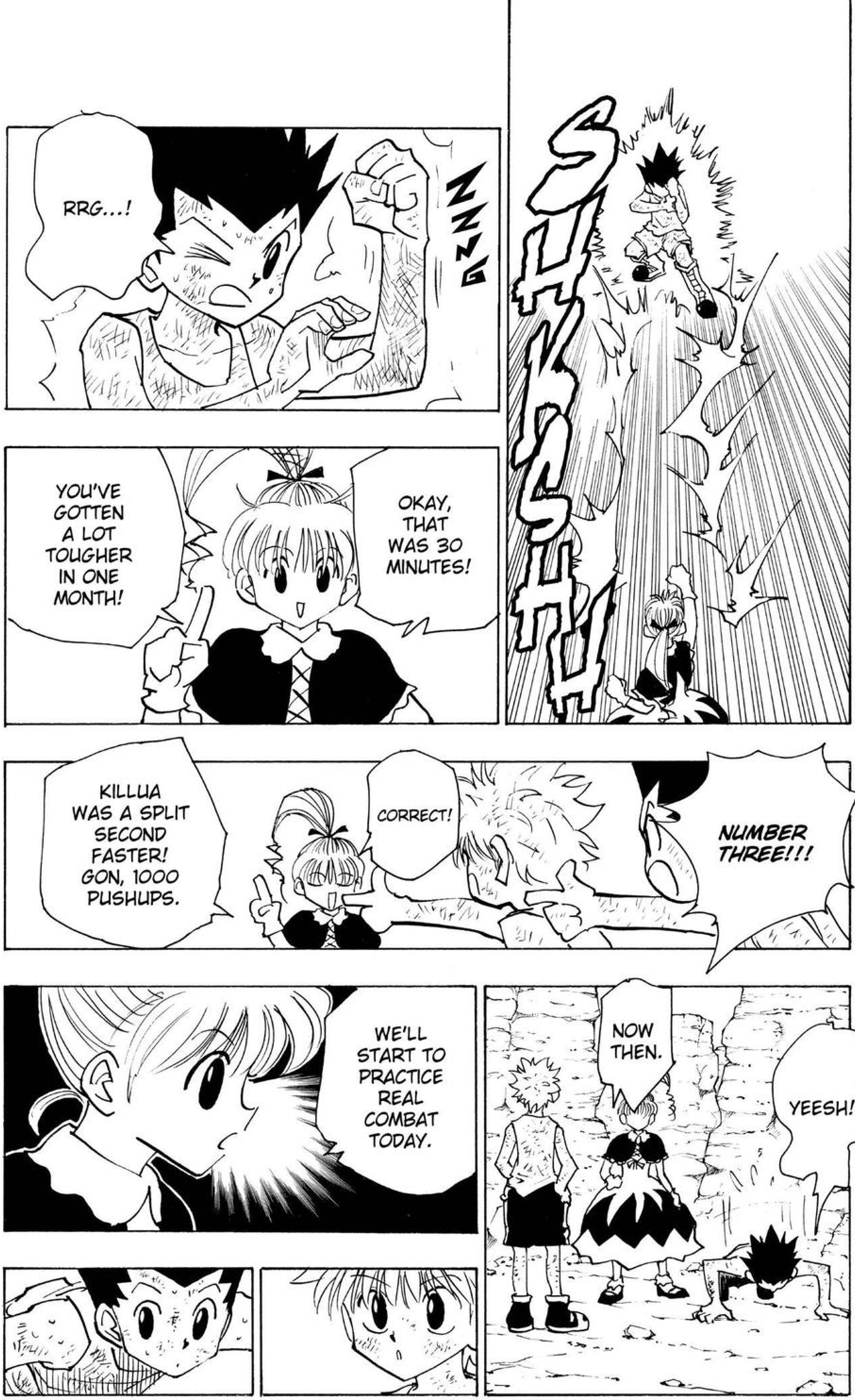

VMMMooo
VMMooo
UNH...
VMooo
GON?!
WHUMP
HFF
HFF
ABOUT TWO MINUTES.
I NEVER KNEW...
...IT WAS SO HARD TO MAINTAIN REN!
HFF
HFF
HFF
IF YOU WANT TO FIGHT ANYONE WHO MATTERS...
...YOU'D HAVE TO MAINTAIN KEN FOR AT LEAST 30 MINUTES!

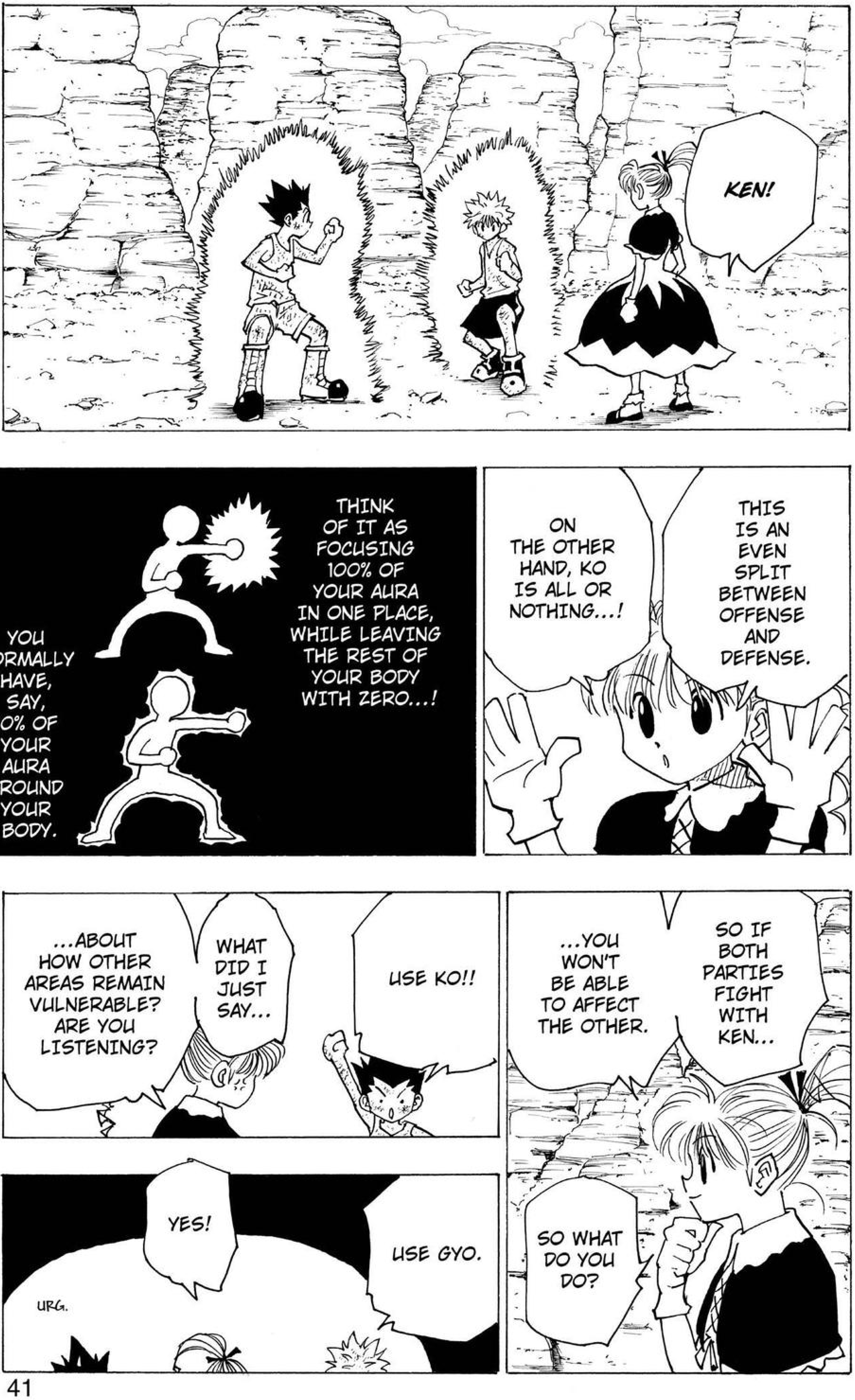
Draw without looking: part 2
Naruto

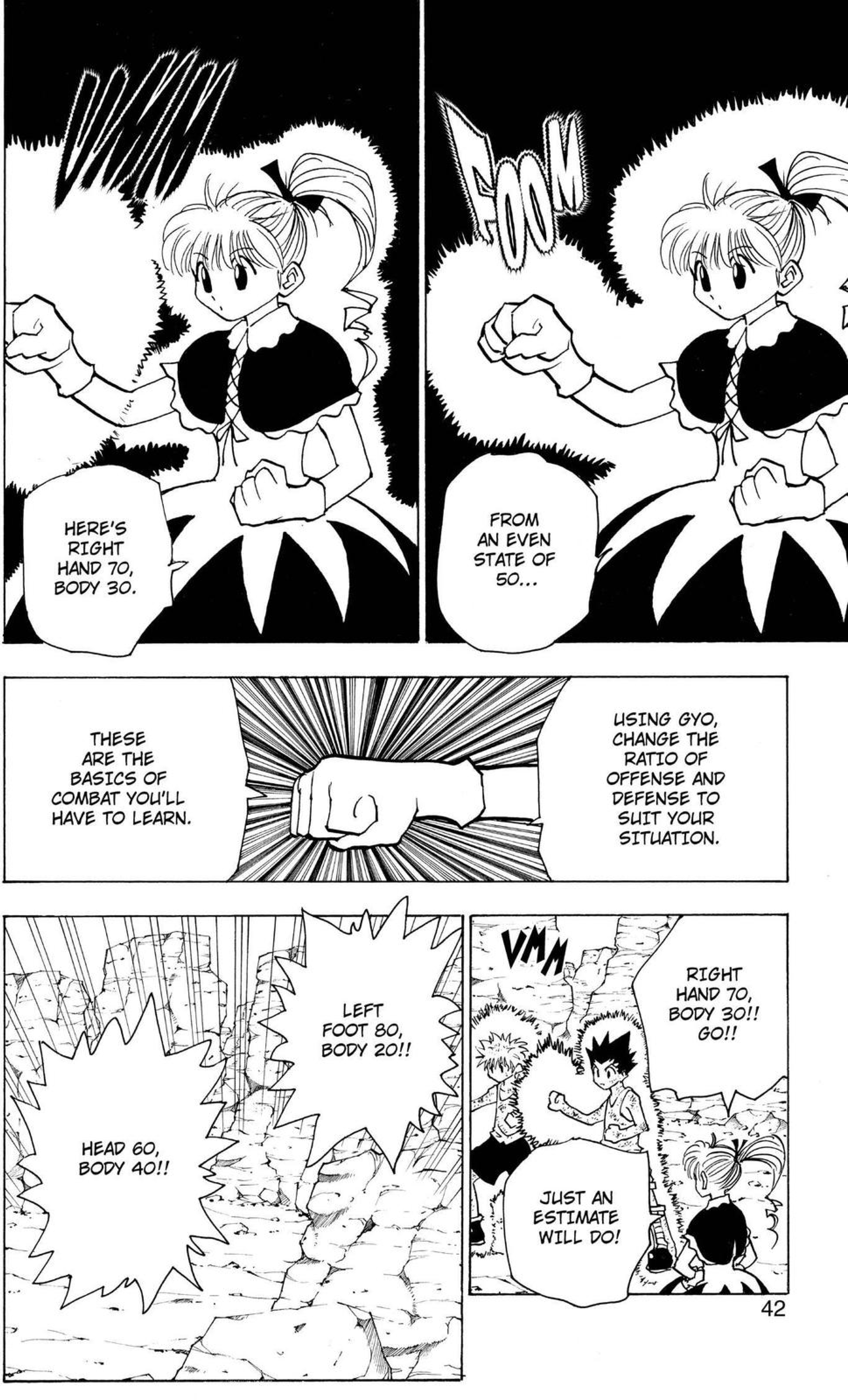

NARUTO
×
HUNTER×HUNTER

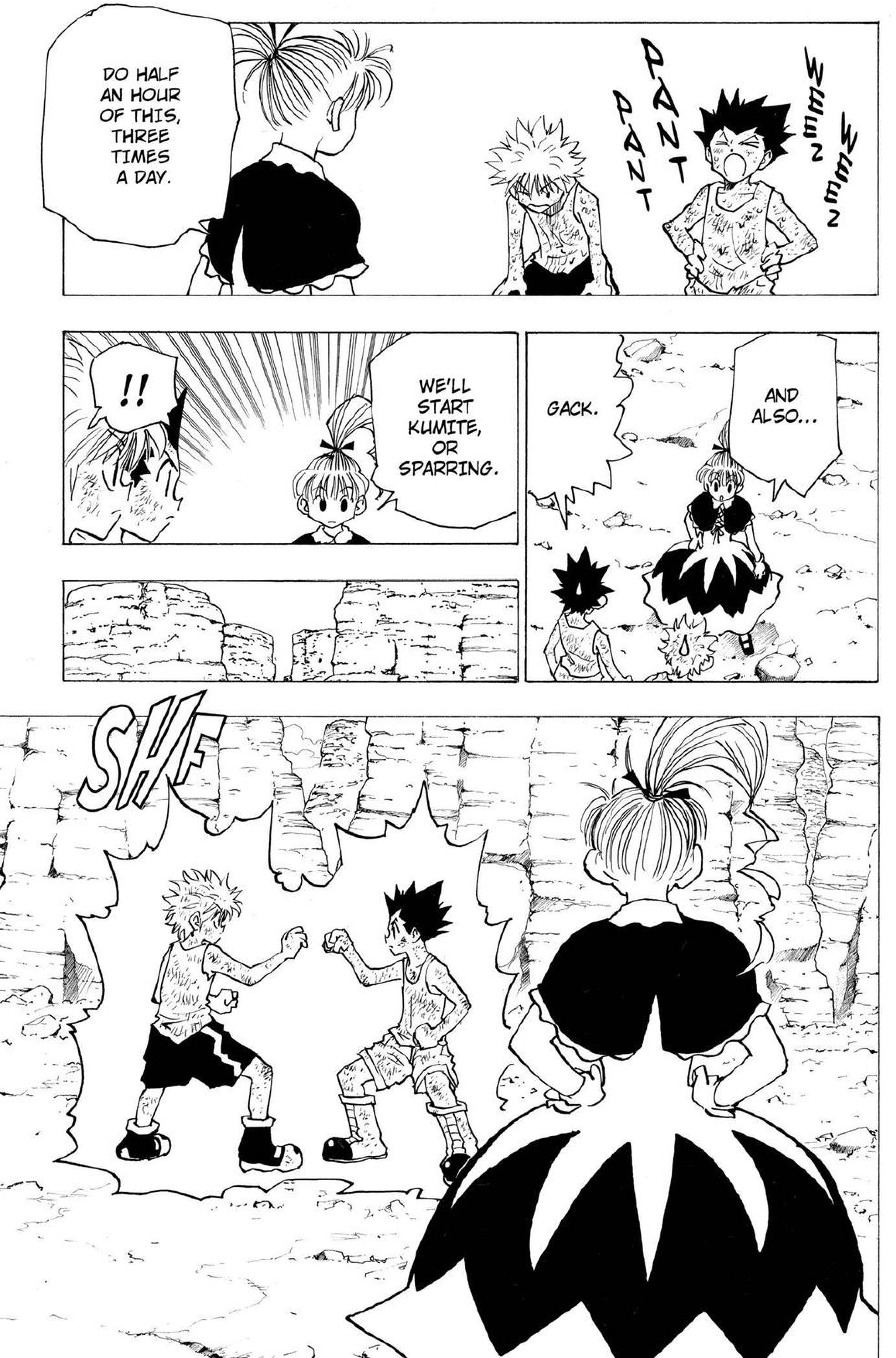
Chapter 142: The Bomber

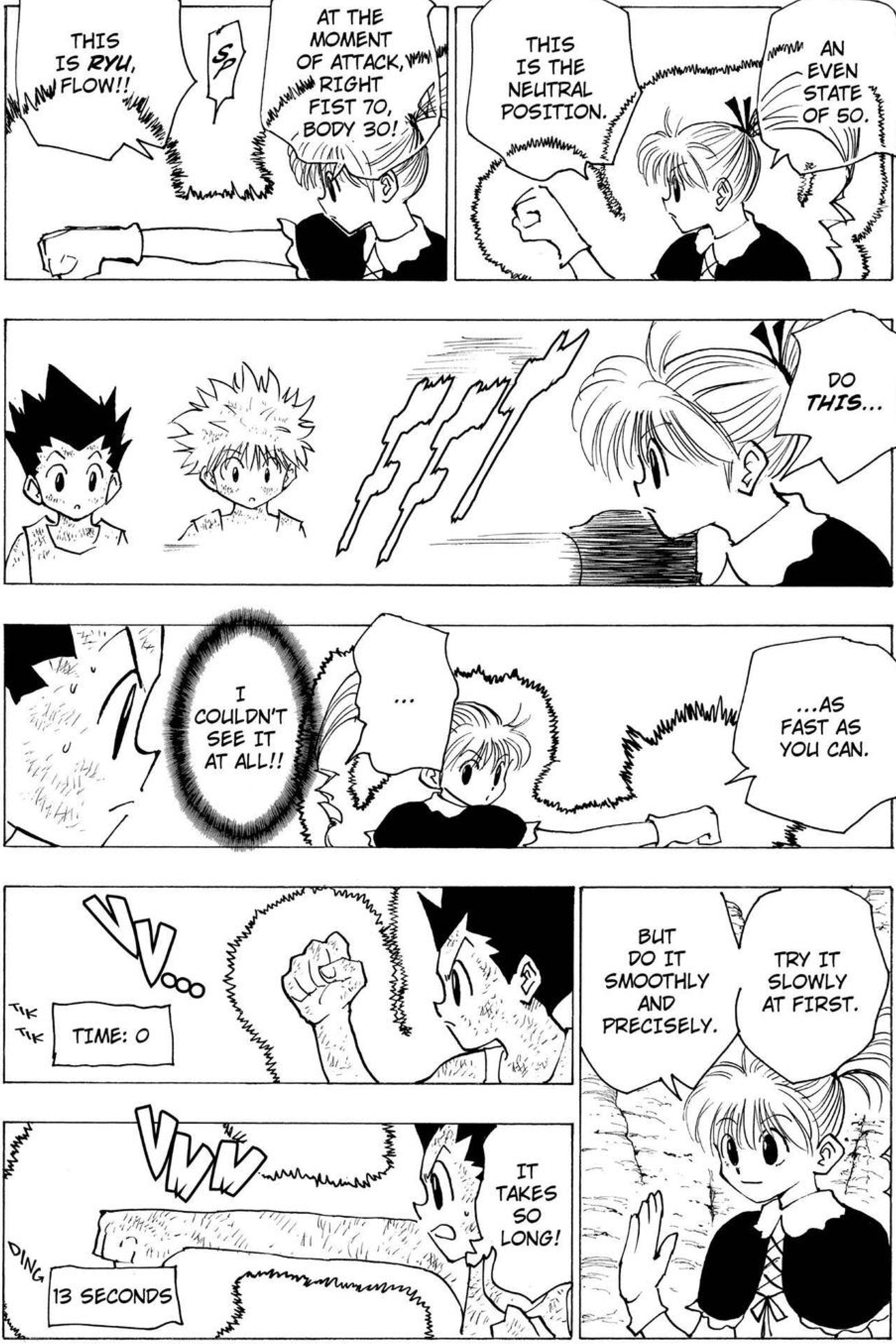

WE'RE THROUGH!!
TIME TO PRACTICE KEN!!
VRRRT
BAM

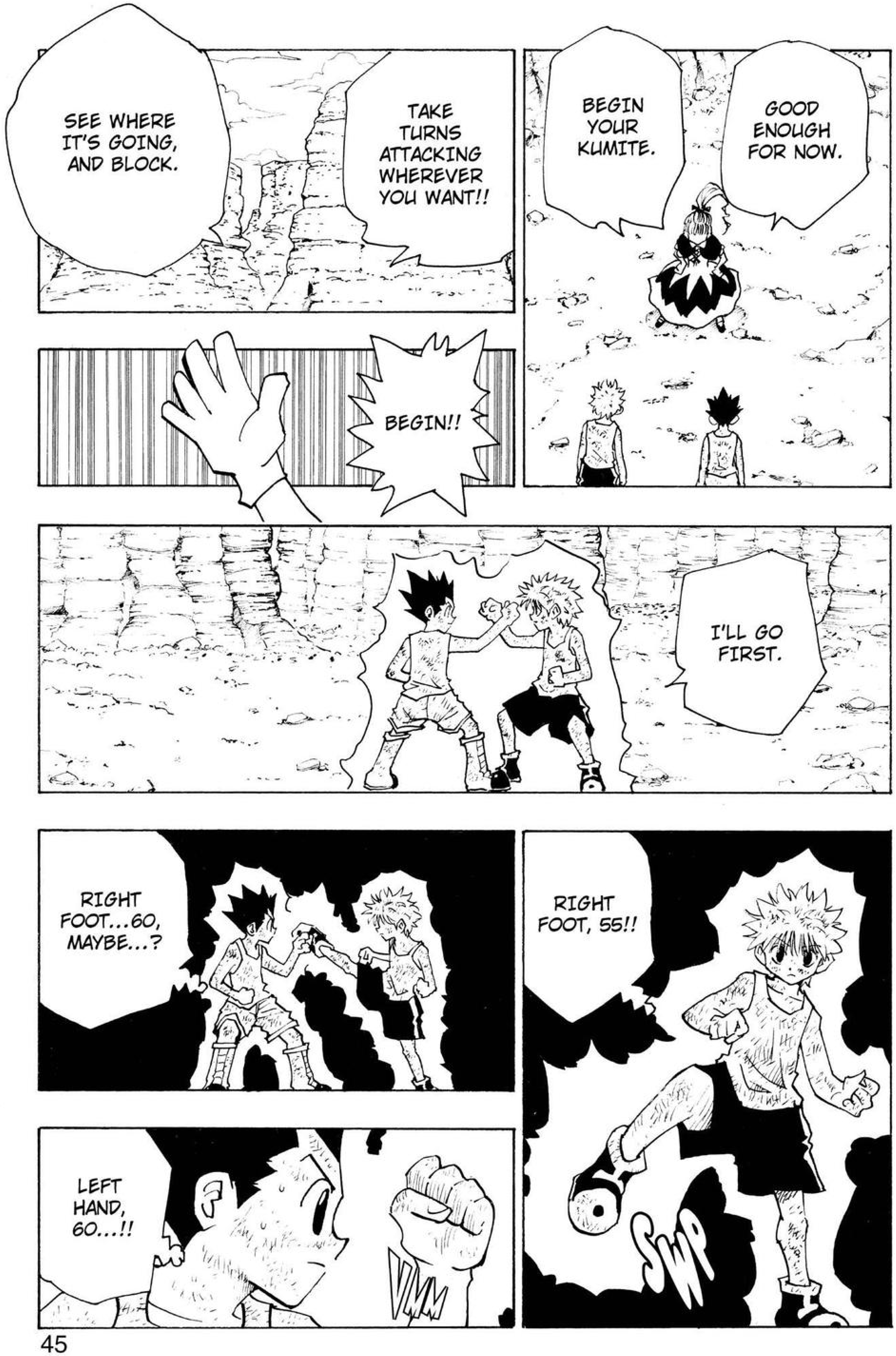

SHHSHH
RRG...!
NNNG
OKAY, THAT WAS 30 MINUTES!
YOU'VE GOTTEN A LOT TOUGHER IN ONE MONTH!
NUMBER THREE!!!
CORRECT!
KILLUA WAS A SPLIT SECOND FASTER! GON, 1000 PUSHUPS.
YEESH!
NOW THEN.
WE'LL START TO PRACTICE REAL COMBAT TODAY.

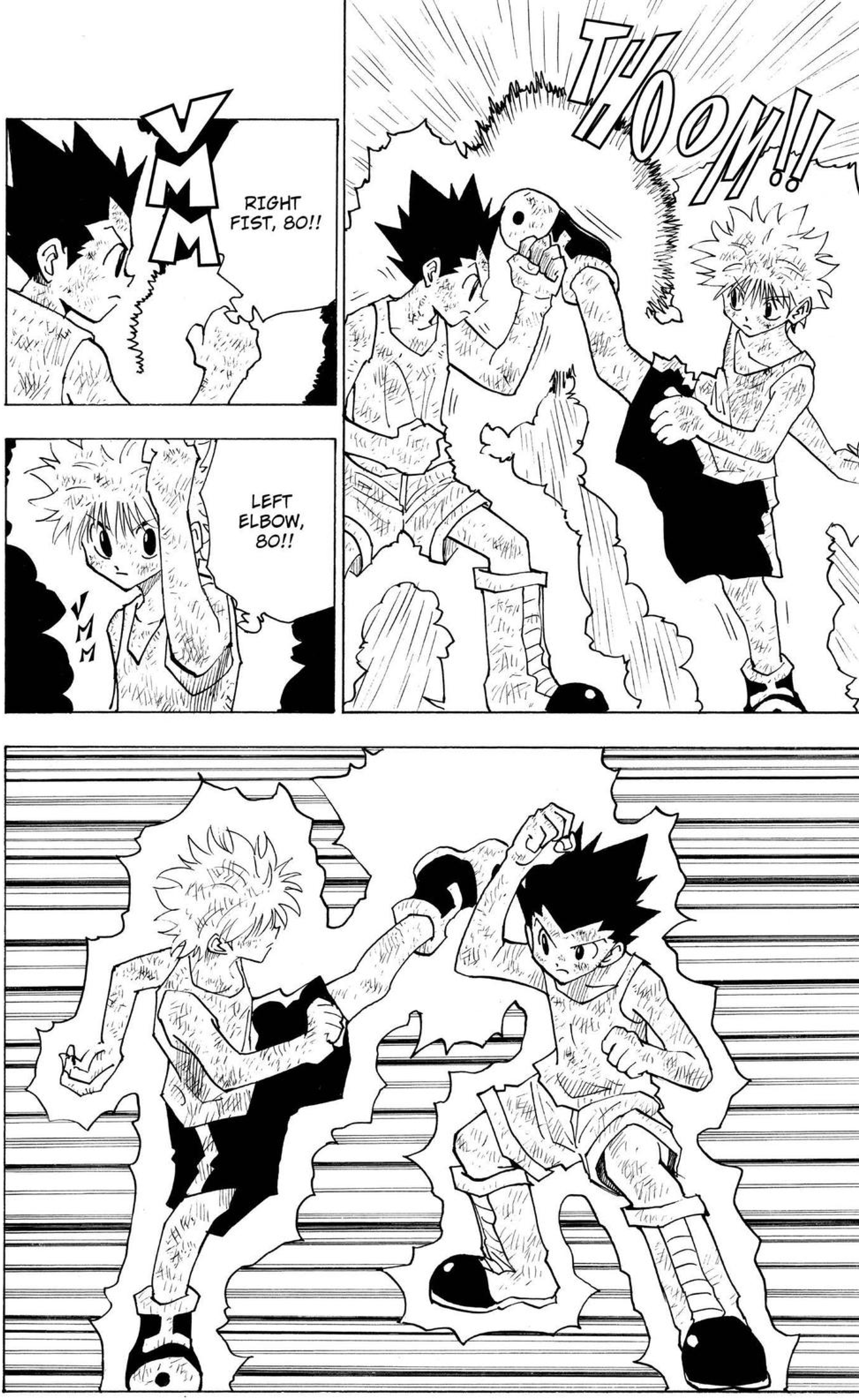

KEN!
THIS IS AN EVEN SPLIT BETWEEN OFFENSE AND DEFENSE.
ON THE OTHER HAND, KO IS ALL OR NOTHING...!
YOU NORMALLY HAVE, SAY, 10% OF YOUR AURA AROUND YOUR BODY.
THINK OF IT AS FOCUSING 100% OF YOUR AURA IN ONE PLACE, WHILE LEAVING THE REST OF YOUR BODY WITH ZERO...!
SO IF BOTH PARTIES FIGHT WITH KEN...
...YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO AFFECT THE OTHER.
SO WHAT DO YOU DO?
USE KO!!
WHAT DID I JUST SAY...
...ABOUT HOW OTHER AREAS REMAIN VULNERABLE? ARE YOU LISTENING?
USE GYO.
YES!
URG.


FOOM
FROM AN EVEN STATE OF 50...
VMM
HERE'S RIGHT HAND 70, BODY 30.
USING GYO, CHANGE THE RATIO OF OFFENSE AND DEFENSE TO SUIT YOUR SITUATION.
THESE ARE THE BASICS OF COMBAT YOU'LL HAVE TO LEARN.
VMM
RIGHT HAND 70, BODY 30!! GO!!
JUST AN ESTIMATE WILL DO!
LEFT FOOT 80, BODY 20!!
HEAD 60, BODY 40!!

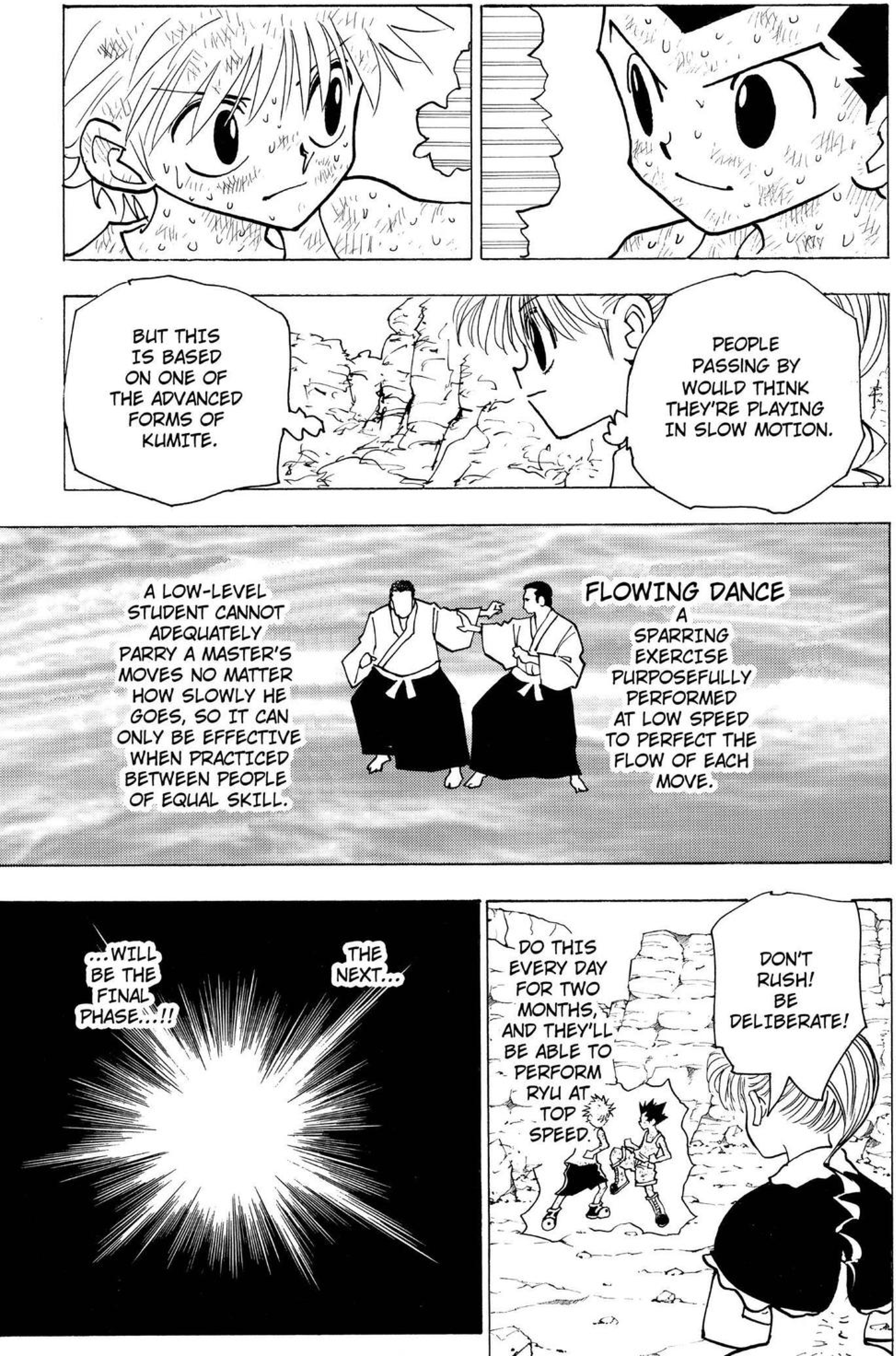

WEEEN WEEEN
PANT PANT
DO HALF AN HOUR OF THIS, THREE TIMES A DAY.
AND ALSO...
GACK.
WE'LL START KUMITE, OR SPARRING.
!!
SHF

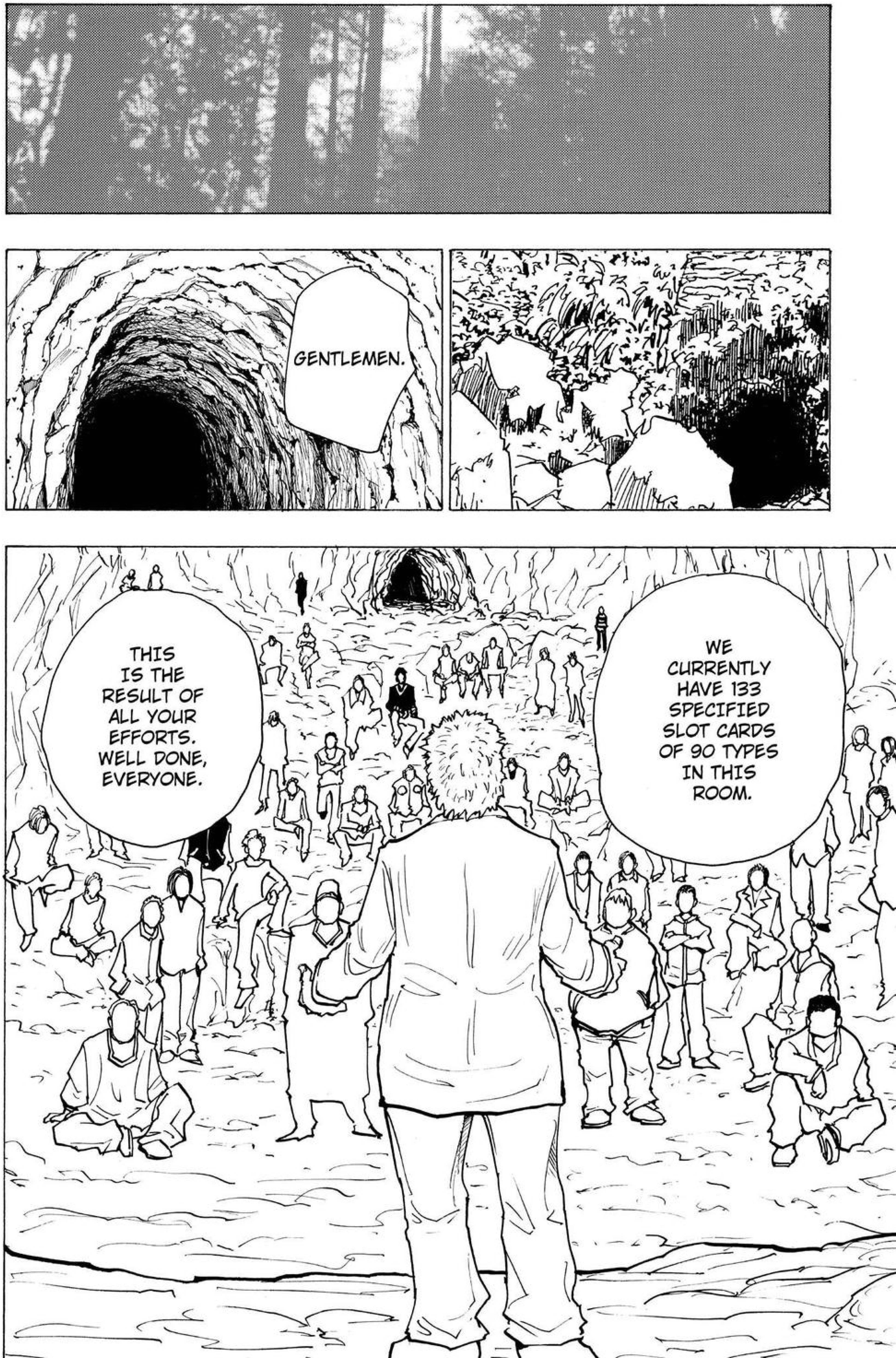

THIS IS THE NEUTRAL POSITION.
AN EVEN STATE OF 50.
SP
AT THE MOMENT OF ATTACK, RIGHT FIST 70, BODY 30!
THIS IS *RYU*, FLOW!!
DO *THIS*...
...AS FAST AS YOU CAN.
...
I COULDN'T SEE IT AT ALL!!
TRY IT SLOWLY AT FIRST.
BUT DO IT SMOOTHLY AND PRECISELY.
VV...
TIK TIK
TIME: 0
VVV
IT TAKES SO LONG!
DING
13 SECONDS

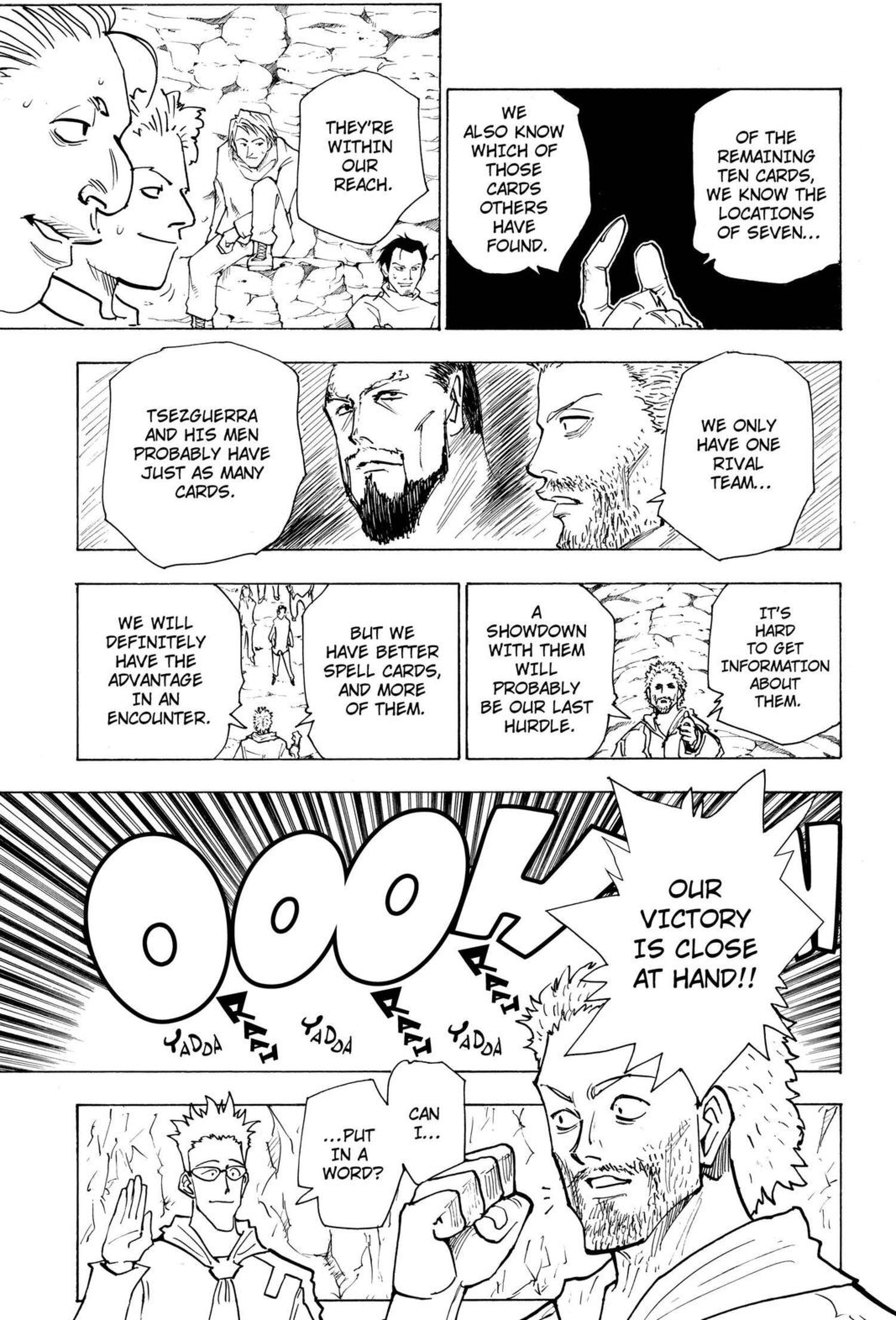

GOOD ENOUGH FOR NOW.
BEGIN YOUR KUMITE.
TAKE TURNS ATTACKING WHEREVER YOU WANT!!
SEE WHERE IT'S GOING, AND BLOCK.
BEGIN!!
I'LL GO FIRST.
RIGHT FOOT, 55!!
SWP
RIGHT FOOT...60, MAYBE...?
VMM
LEFT HAND, 60...!!

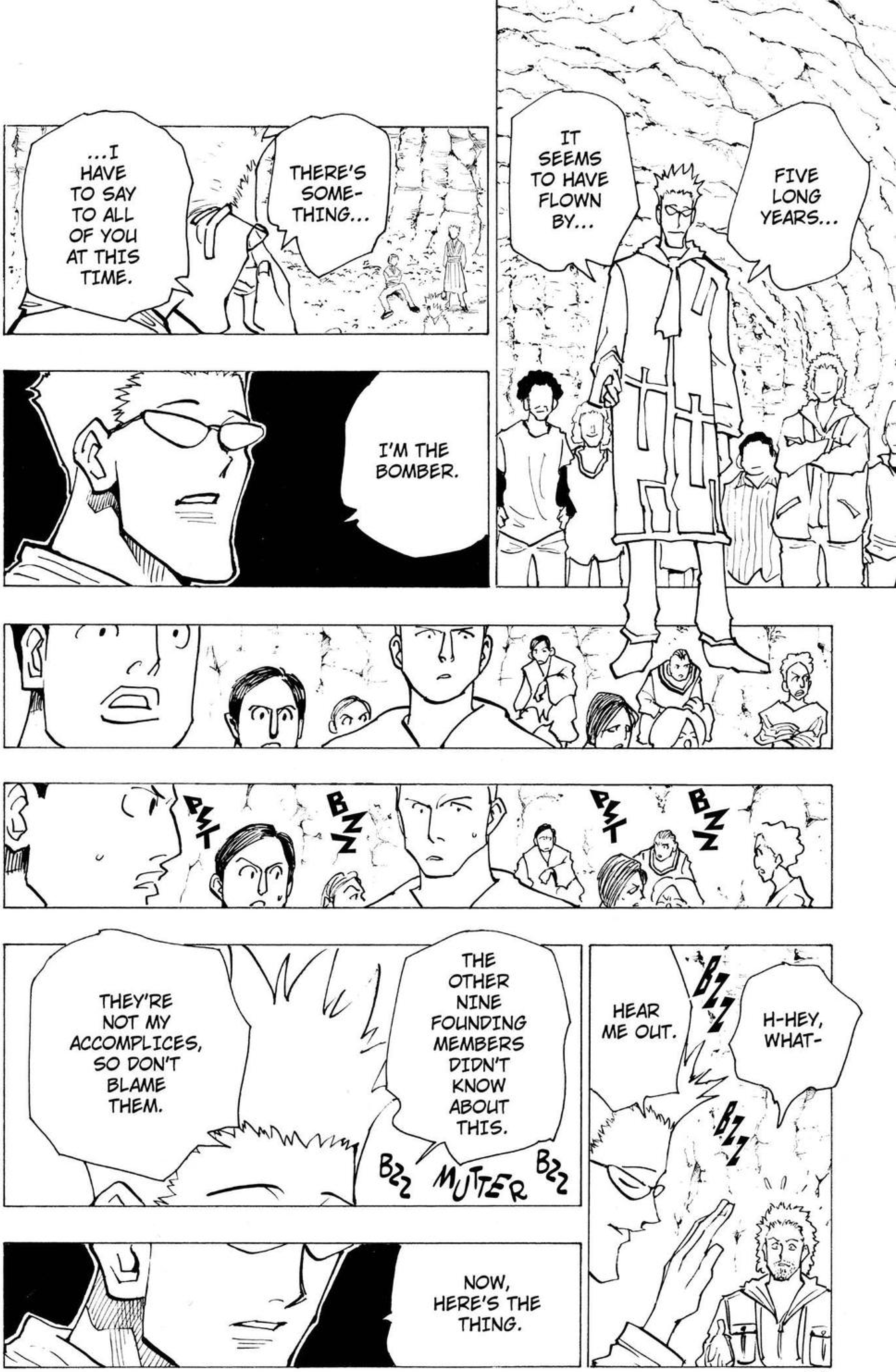

VMM
RIGHT FIST, 80!!
LEFT ELBOW, 80!!
VMM
THOOM!!

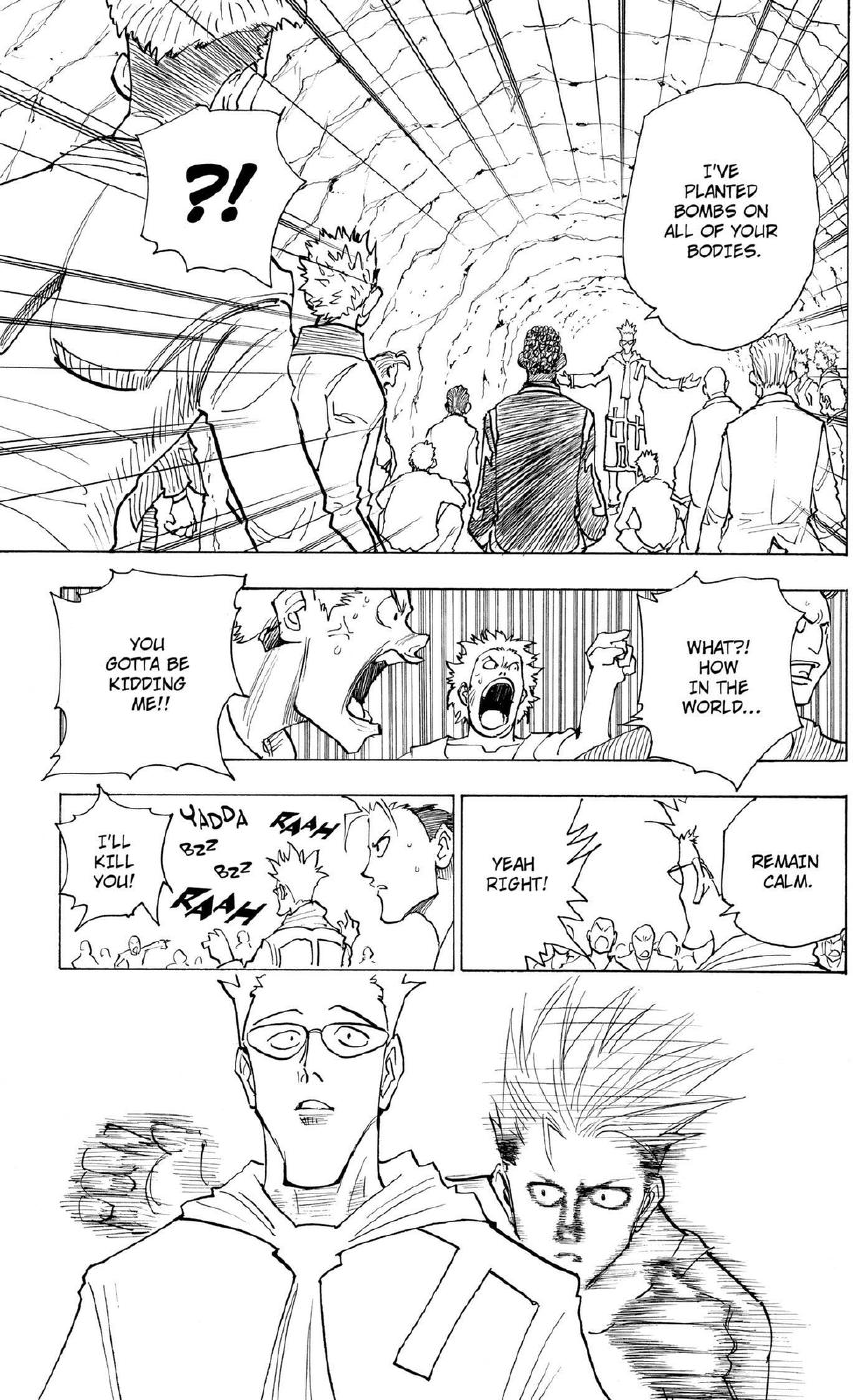
READ THIS WAY

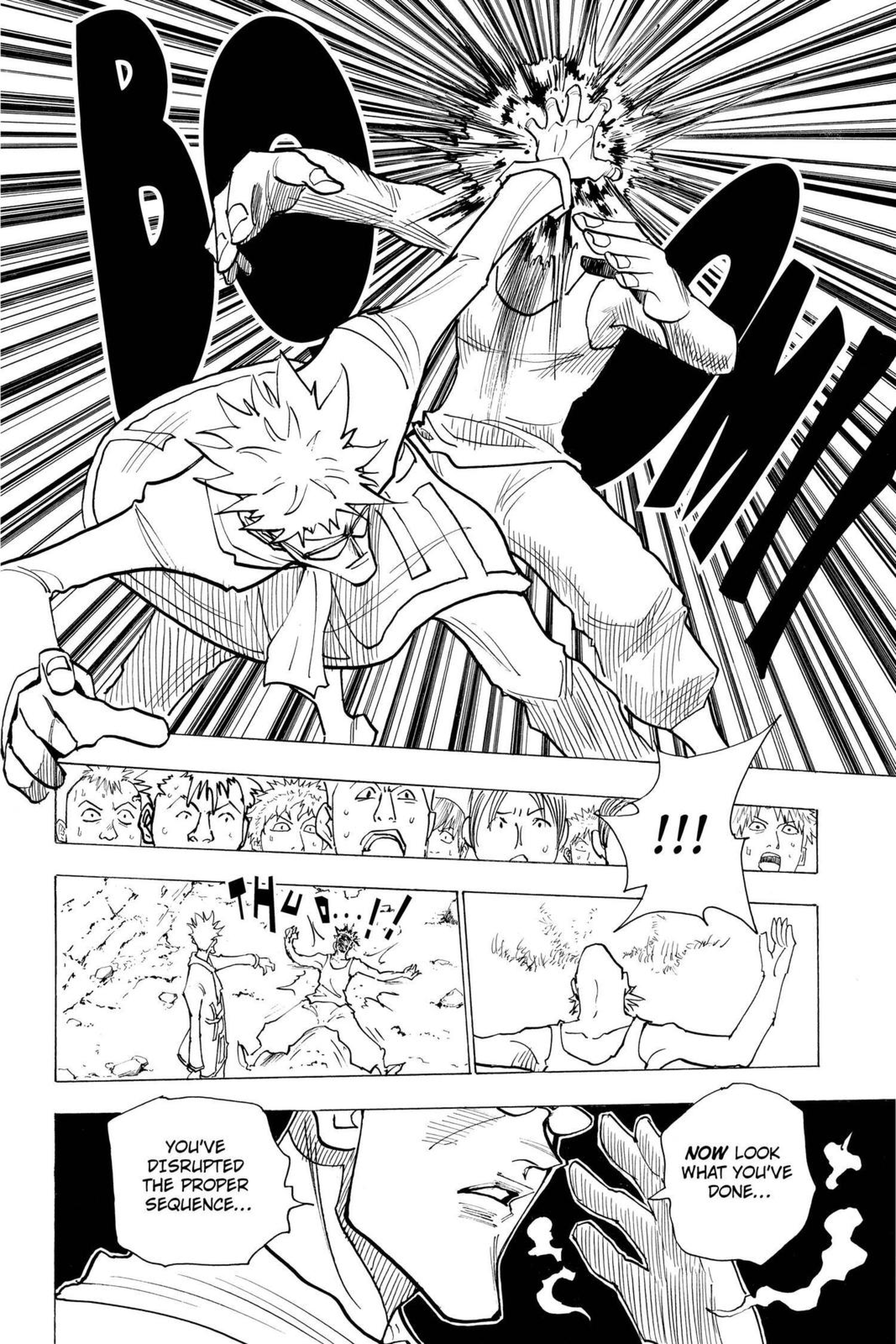

PEOPLE PASSING BY WOULD THINK THEY'RE PLAYING IN SLOW MOTION.
BUT THIS IS BASED ON ONE OF THE ADVANCED FORMS OF KUMITE.
FLOWING DANCE
A SPARRING EXERCISE PURPOSEFULLY PERFORMED AT LOW SPEED TO PERFECT THE FLOW OF EACH MOVE.
A LOW-LEVEL STUDENT CANNOT ADEQUATELY PARRY A MASTER'S MOVES NO MATTER HOW SLOWLY HE GOES, SO IT CAN ONLY BE EFFECTIVE WHEN PRACTICED BETWEEN PEOPLE OF EQUAL SKILL.
DON'T RUSH! BE DELIBERATE!
DO THIS EVERY DAY FOR TWO MONTHS, AND THEY'LL BE ABLE TO PERFORM RYU AT TOP SPEED.
THE NEXT...
...WILL BE THE FINAL PHASE...!!

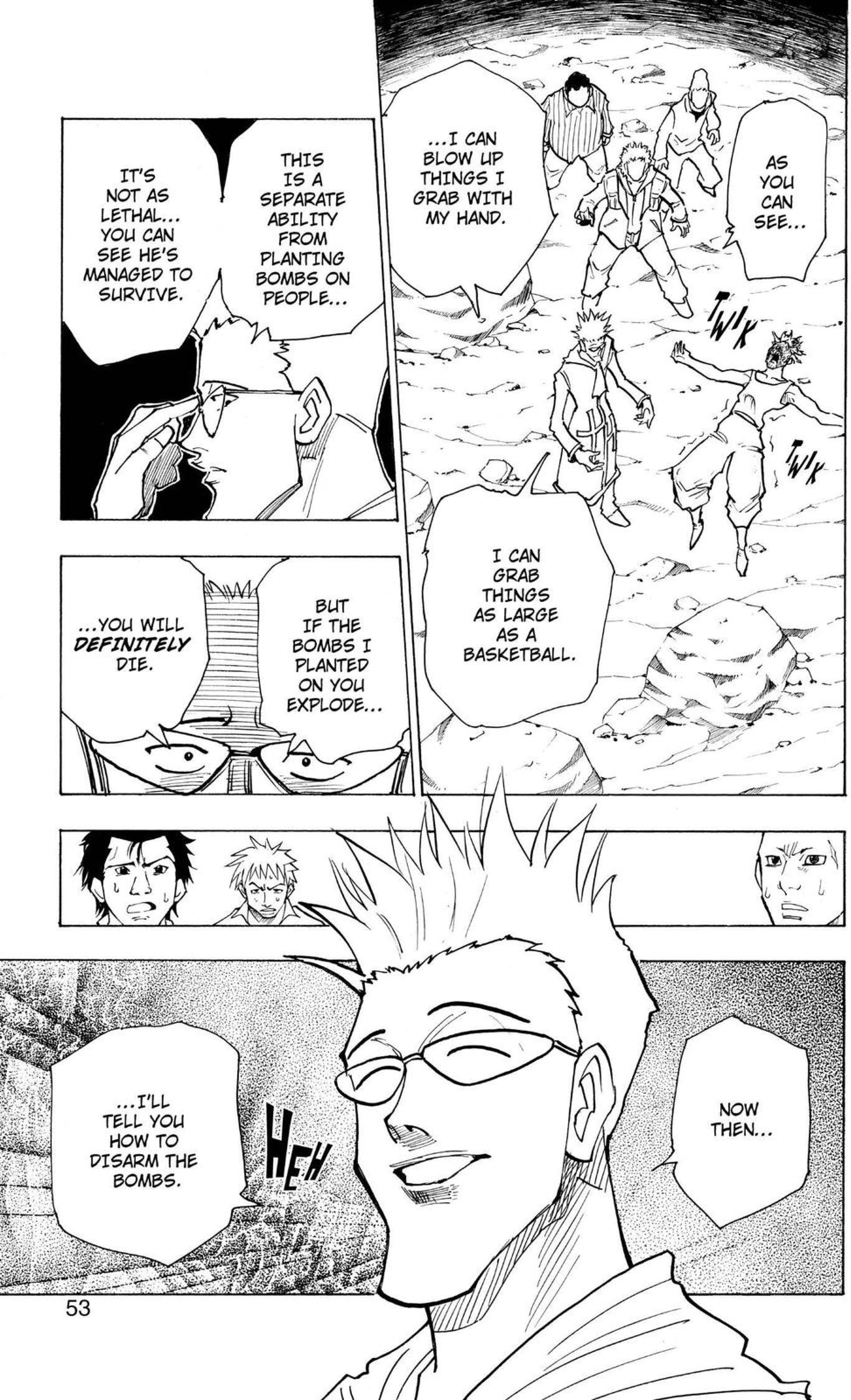

GENTLEMEN.
WE CURRENTLY HAVE 133 SPECIFIED SLOT CARDS OF 90 TYPES IN THIS ROOM.
THIS IS THE RESULT OF ALL YOUR EFFORTS. WELL DONE, EVERYONE.


OF THE REMAINING TEN CARDS, WE KNOW THE LOCATIONS OF SEVEN...
WE ALSO KNOW WHICH OF THOSE CARDS OTHERS HAVE FOUND.
THEY'RE WITHIN OUR REACH.
WE ONLY HAVE ONE RIVAL TEAM...
TSEZGUERRA AND HIS MEN PROBABLY HAVE JUST AS MANY CARDS.
IT'S HARD TO GET INFORMATION ABOUT THEM.
A SHOWDOWN WITH THEM WILL PROBABLY BE OUR LAST HURDLE.
BUT WE HAVE BETTER SPELL CARDS, AND MORE OF THEM.
WE WILL DEFINITELY HAVE THE ADVANTAGE IN AN ENCOUNTER.
OUR VICTORY IS CLOSE AT HAND!!
OOOH
RAAH
YADDA
RAAH
YADDA
RAAH
YADDA
CAN I...
...PUT IN A WORD?

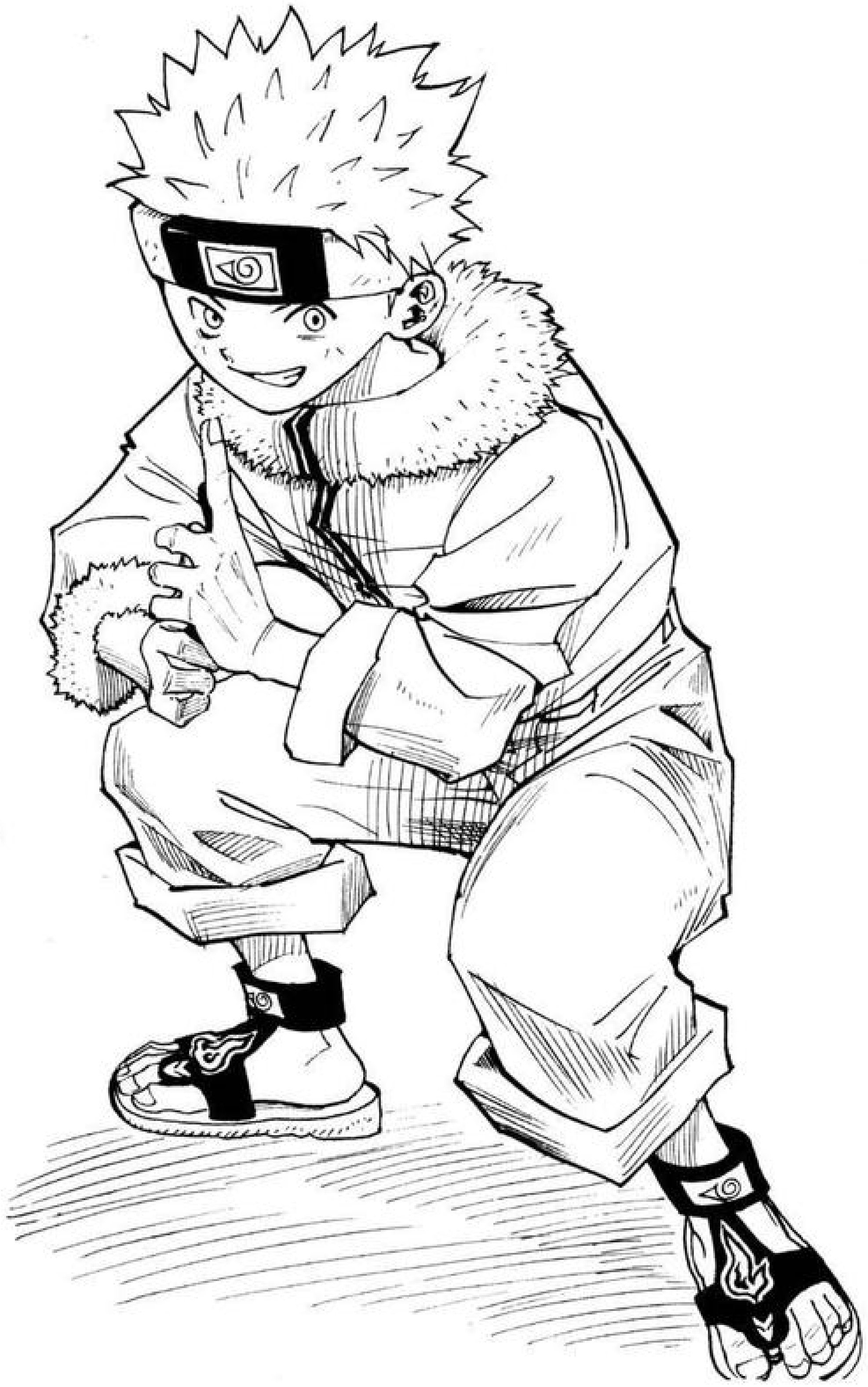

FIVE LONG YEARS...
IT SEEMS TO HAVE FLOWN BY...
THERE'S SOMETHING...
...I HAVE TO SAY TO ALL OF YOU AT THIS TIME.
I'M THE BOMBER.
BZZ
PST
BZZ
PST
H-HEY, WHAT-
BZZ
HEAR ME OUT.
BZZ
THE OTHER NINE FOUNDING MEMBERS DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT THIS.
THEY'RE NOT MY ACCOMPLICES, SO DON'T BLAME THEM.
BZZ
MUTTER
BZZ
NOW, HERE'S THE THING.


I'VE PLANTED BOMBS ON ALL OF YOUR BODIES.
?!
WHAT?! HOW IN THE WORLD...
YOU GOTTA BE KIDDING ME!!
REMAIN CALM.
YEAH RIGHT!
RAAH
YADDA
BZZ
BZZ
RAAH
I'LL KILL YOU!

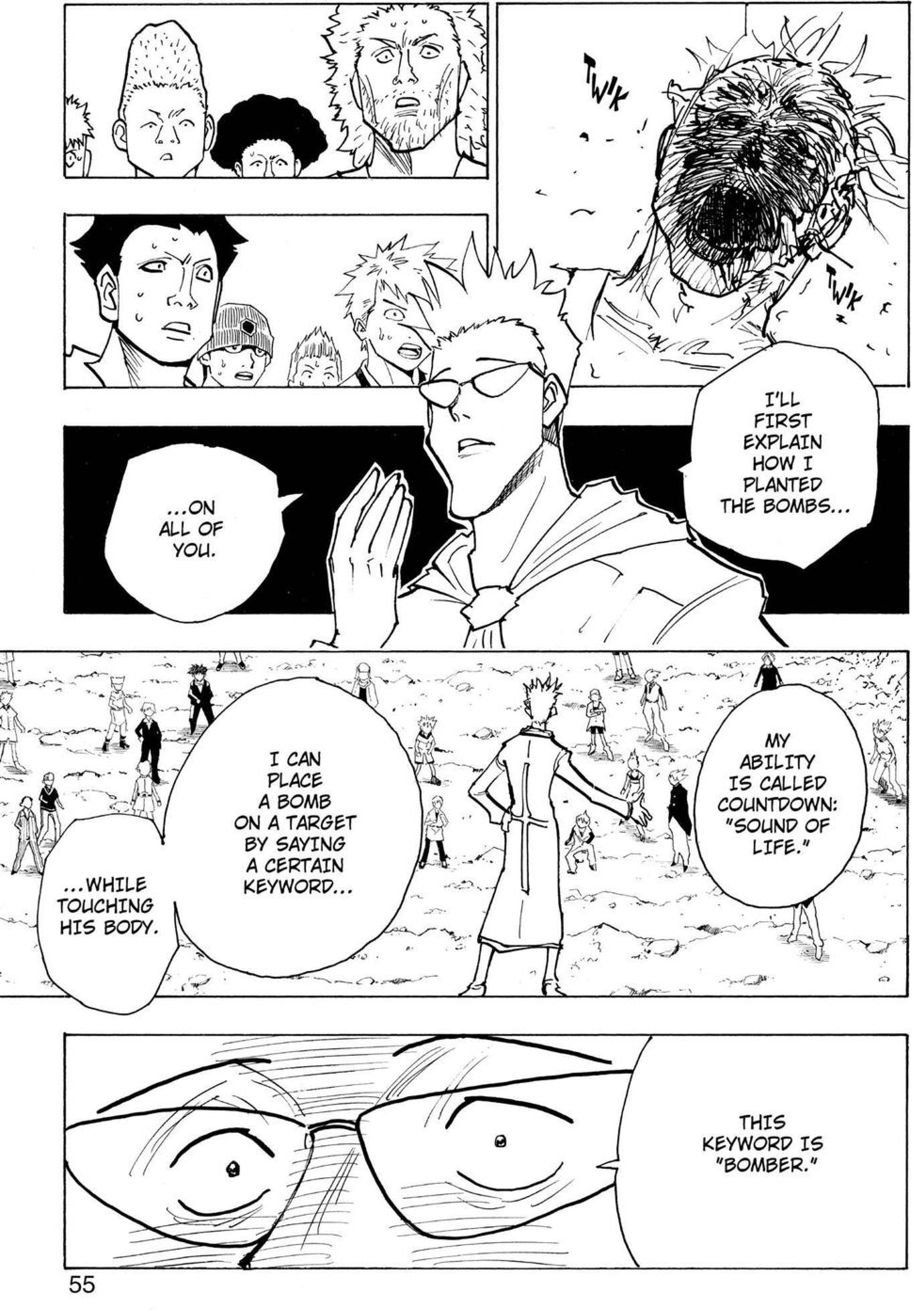

BOOM!!
!!!
THUD...!!
NOW LOOK WHAT YOU'VE DONE...
YOU'VE DISRUPTED THE PROPER SEQUENCE...

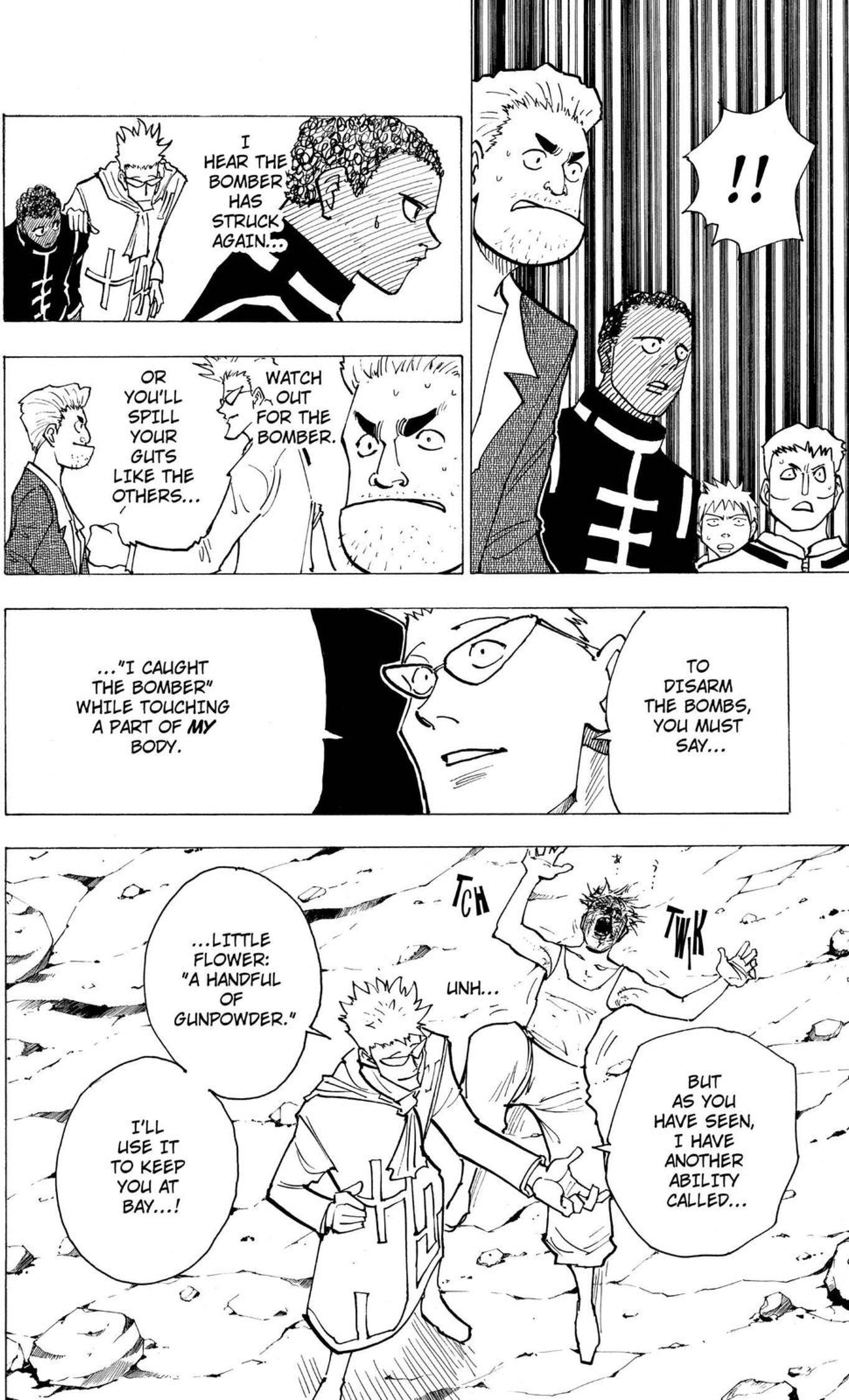

AS YOU CAN SEE...
...I CAN BLOW UP THINGS I GRAB WITH MY HAND.
TWIK
TWIK
I CAN GRAB THINGS AS LARGE AS A BASKETBALL.
THIS IS A SEPARATE ABILITY FROM PLANTING BOMBS ON PEOPLE...
IT'S NOT AS LETHAL... YOU CAN SEE HE'S MANAGED TO SURVIVE.
BUT IF THE BOMBS I PLANTED ON YOU EXPLODE...
...YOU WILL **DEFINITELY** DIE.
NOW THEN...
HEH
...I'LL TELL YOU HOW TO DISARM THE BOMBS.

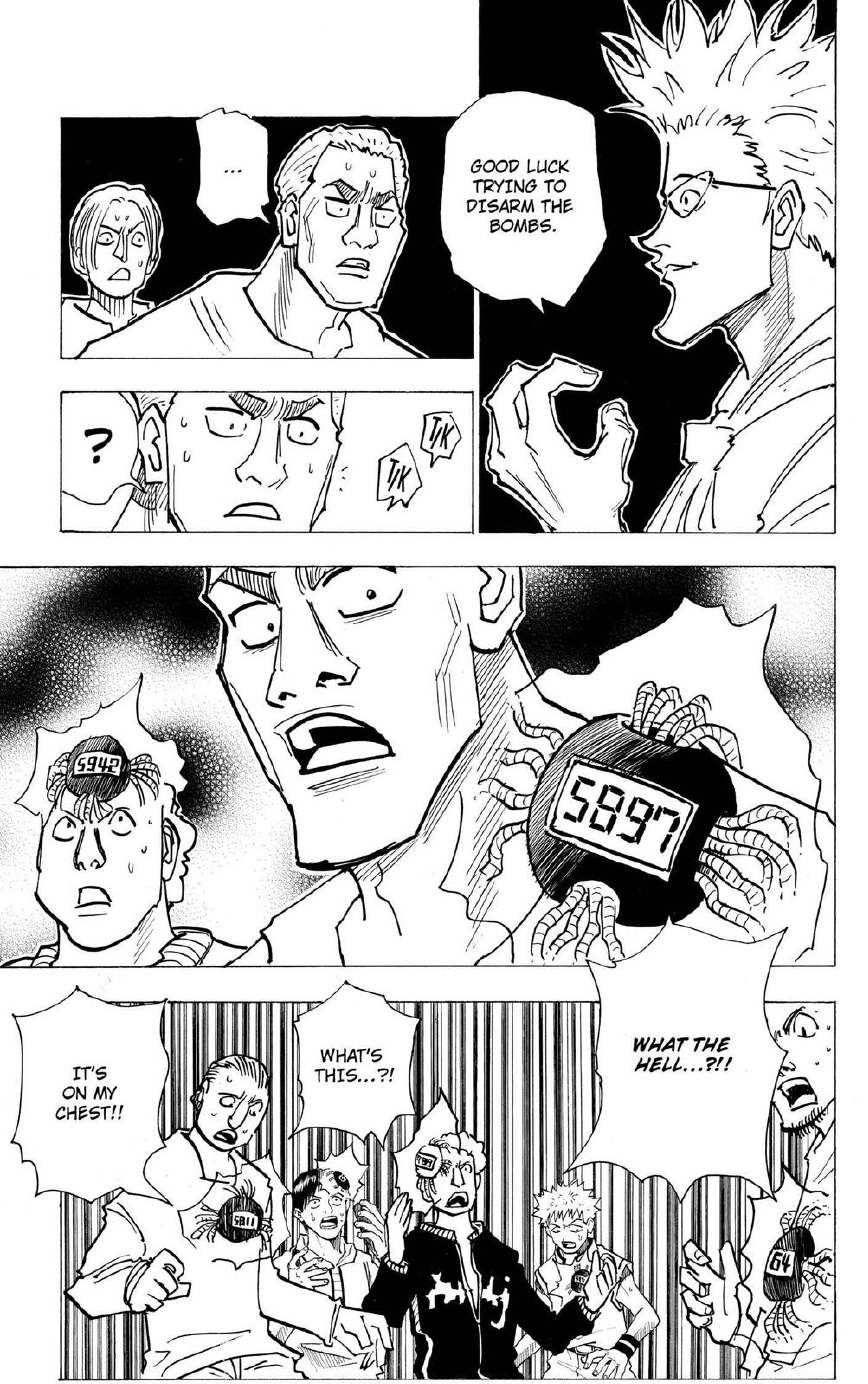
Draw without looking: part 2

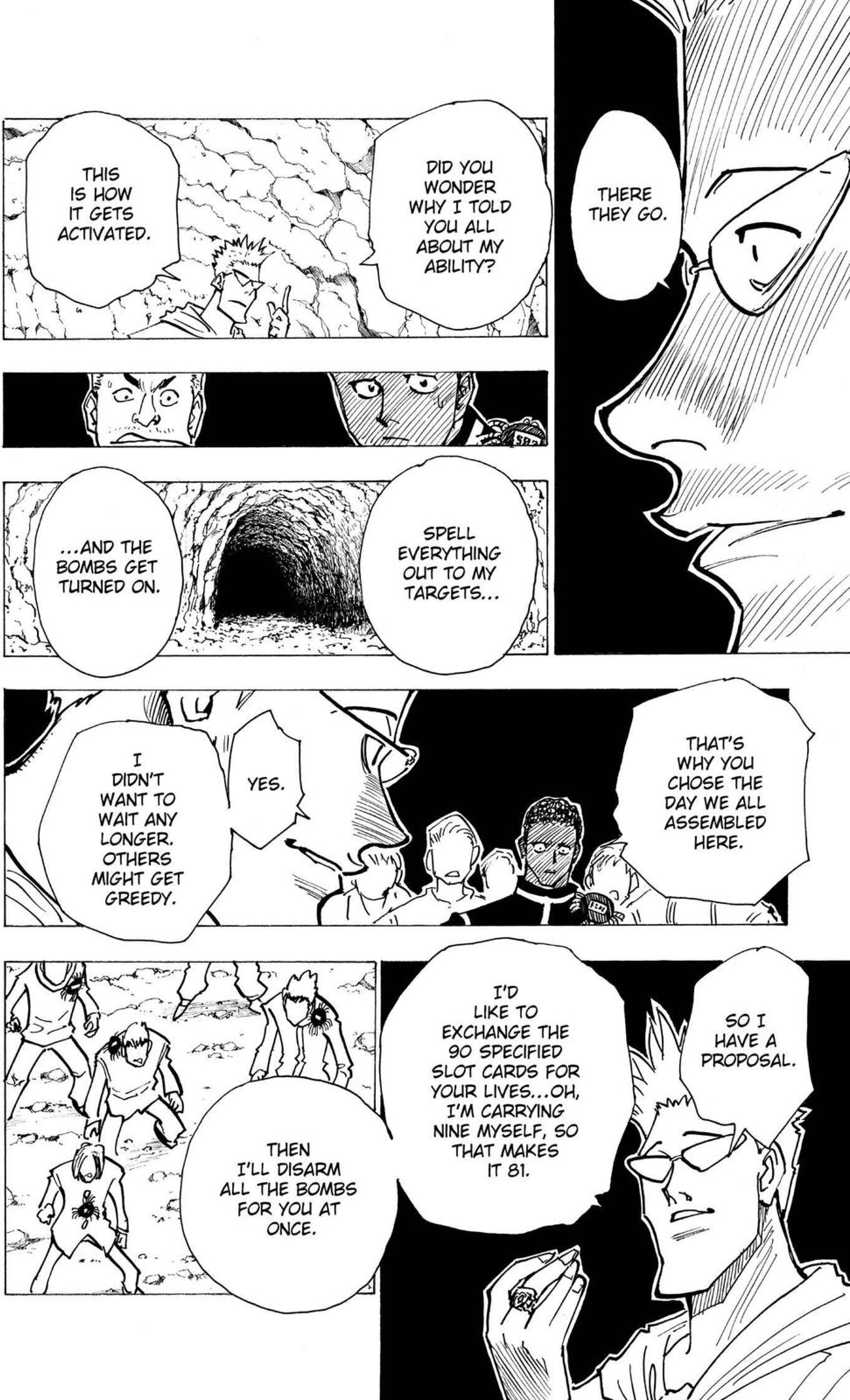


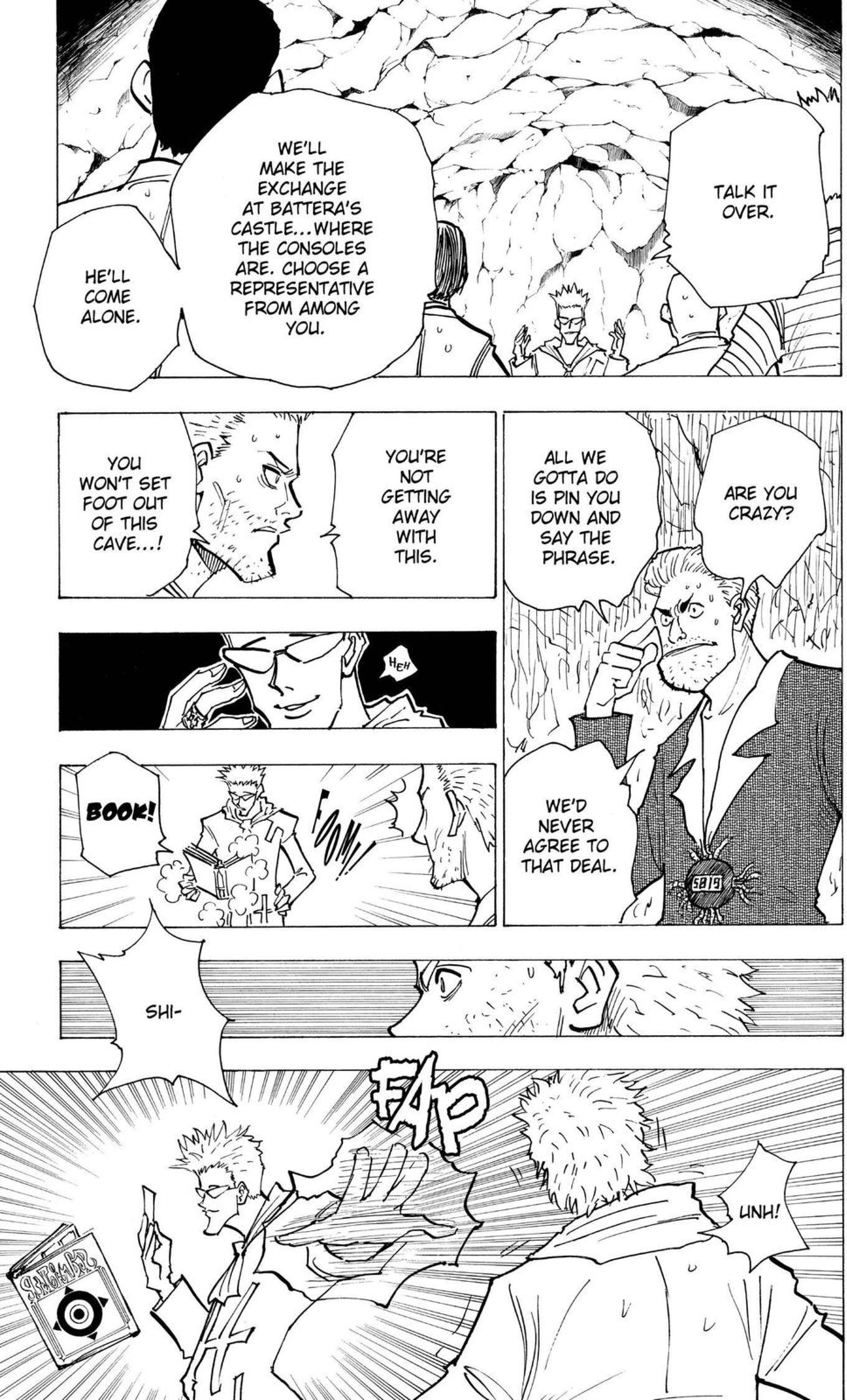
Chapter 143: Countdown

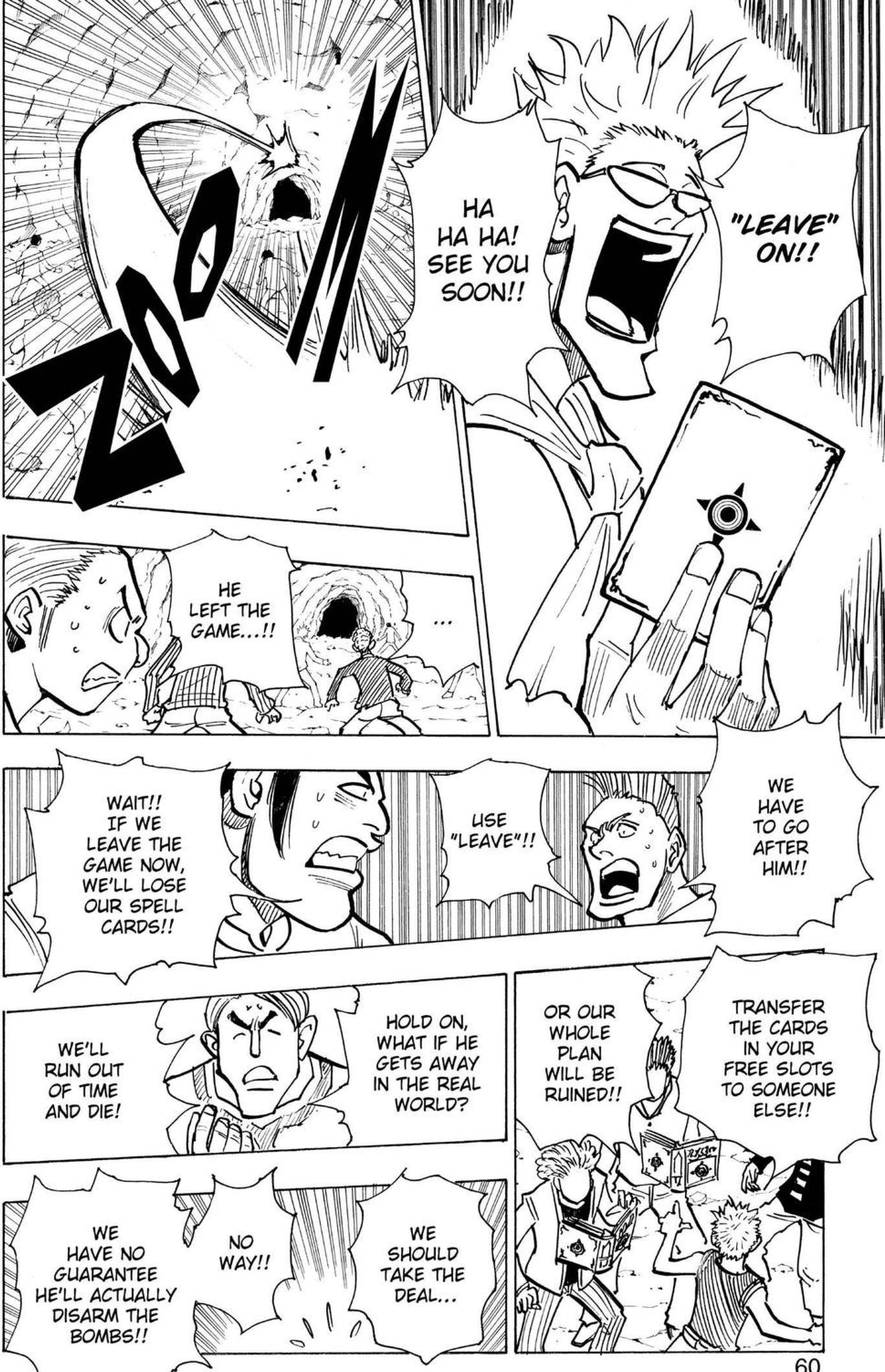

TWIK
TWIK
I'LL FIRST EXPLAIN HOW I PLANTED THE BOMBS...
...ON ALL OF YOU.
MY ABILITY IS CALLED COUNTDOWN: "SOUND OF LIFE."
I CAN PLACE A BOMB ON A TARGET BY SAYING A CERTAIN KEYWORD...
...WHILE TOUCHING HIS BODY.
THIS KEYWORD IS "BOMBER."

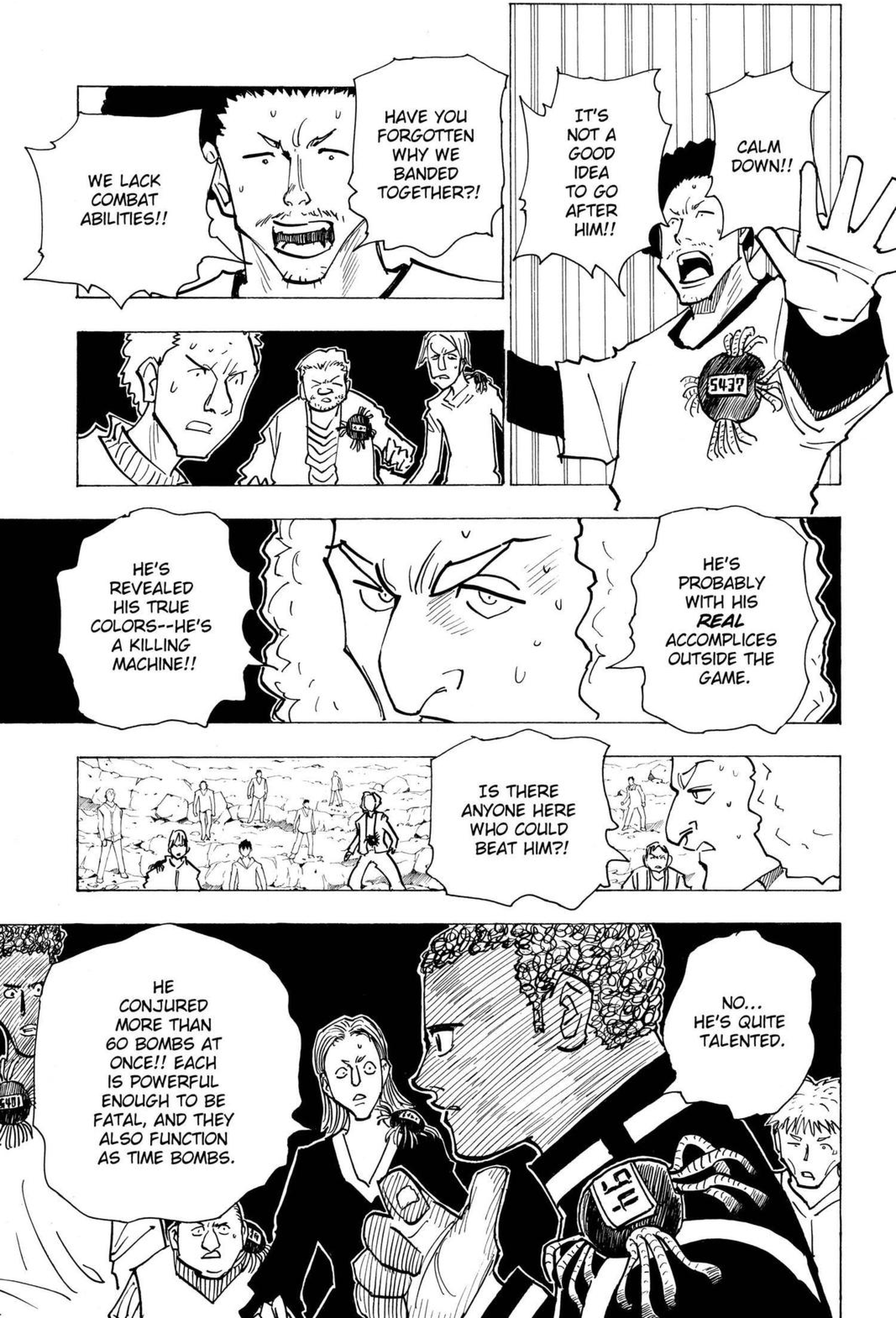

I HEAR THE BOMBER HAS STRUCK AGAIN...
WATCH OUT FOR THE BOMBER.
OR YOU'LL SPILL YOUR GUTS LIKE THE OTHERS...
!!
TO DISARM THE BOMBS, YOU MUST SAY...
..."I CAUGHT THE BOMBER" WHILE TOUCHING A PART OF *MY* BODY.
BUT AS YOU HAVE SEEN, I HAVE ANOTHER ABILITY CALLED...
...LITTLE FLOWER: "A HANDFUL OF GUNPOWDER."
I'LL USE IT TO KEEP YOU AT BAY...!
TWIK
TCH
UNH...

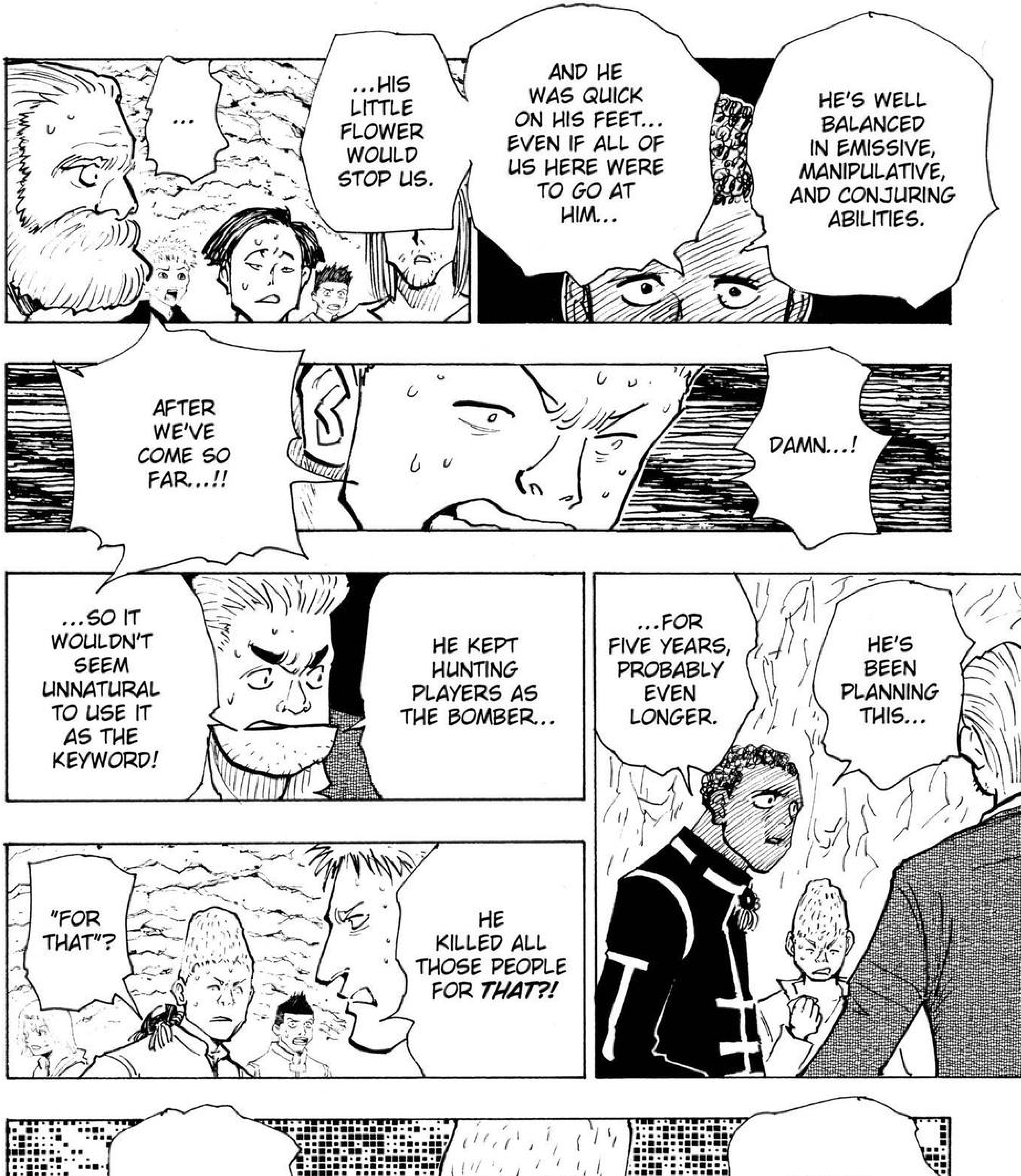

GOOD LUCK TRYING TO DISARM THE BOMBS.
...
TIK
TIK
?
5897
5942
WHAT THE HELL...?!!
64
WHAT'S THIS...?!
5811
IT'S ON MY CHEST!!

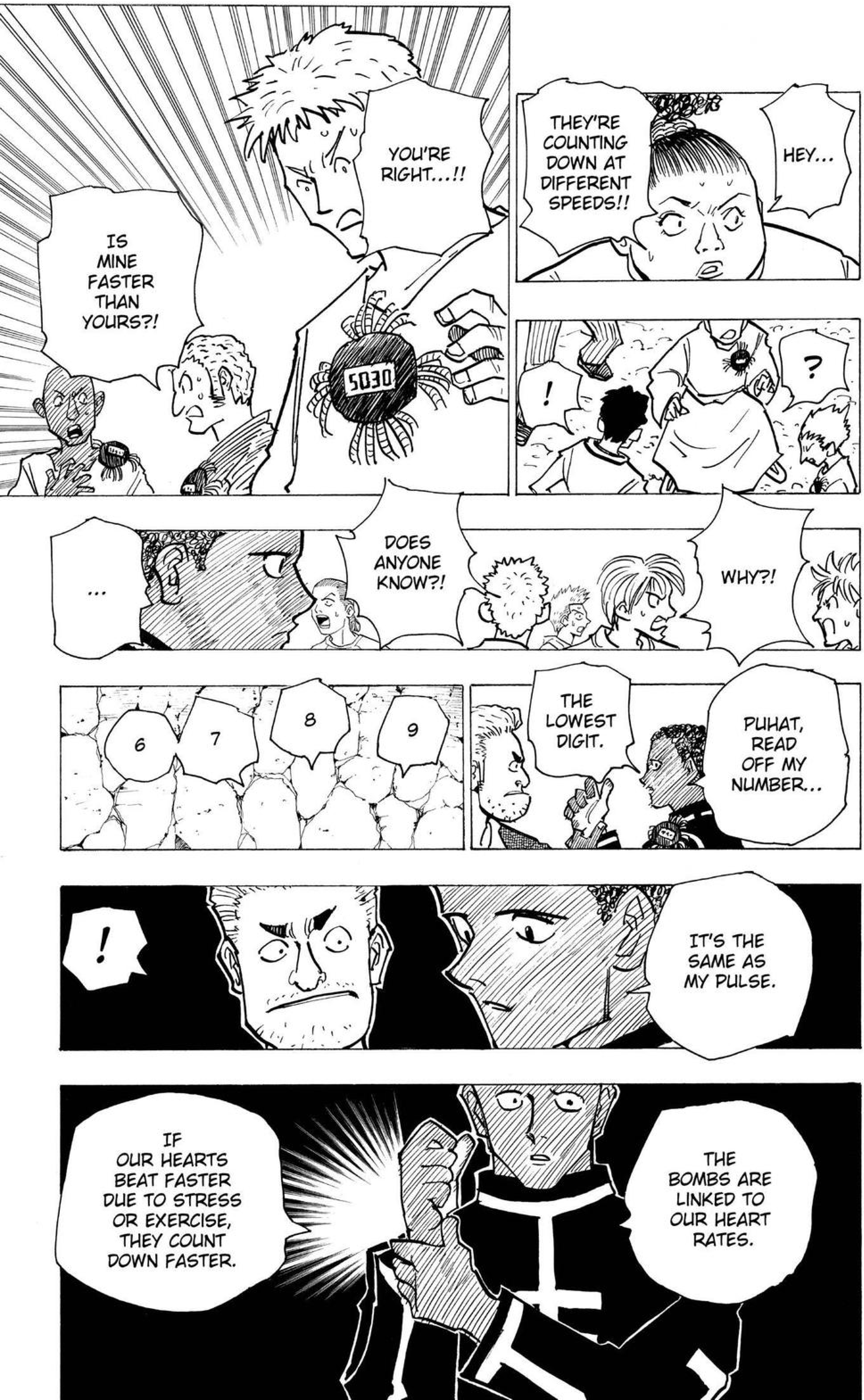

THERE THEY GO.
DID YOU WONDER WHY I TOLD YOU ALL ABOUT MY ABILITY?
THIS IS HOW IT GETS ACTIVATED.
SPELL EVERYTHING OUT TO MY TARGETS...
...AND THE BOMBS GET TURNED ON.
THAT'S WHY YOU CHOSE THE DAY WE ALL ASSEMBLED HERE.
YES.
I DIDN'T WANT TO WAIT ANY LONGER. OTHERS MIGHT GET GREEDY.
SO I HAVE A PROPOSAL.
I'D LIKE TO EXCHANGE THE 90 SPECIFIED SLOT CARDS FOR YOUR LIVES...OH, I'M CARRYING NINE MYSELF, SO THAT MAKES IT 81.
THEN I'LL DISARM ALL THE BOMBS FOR YOU AT ONCE.

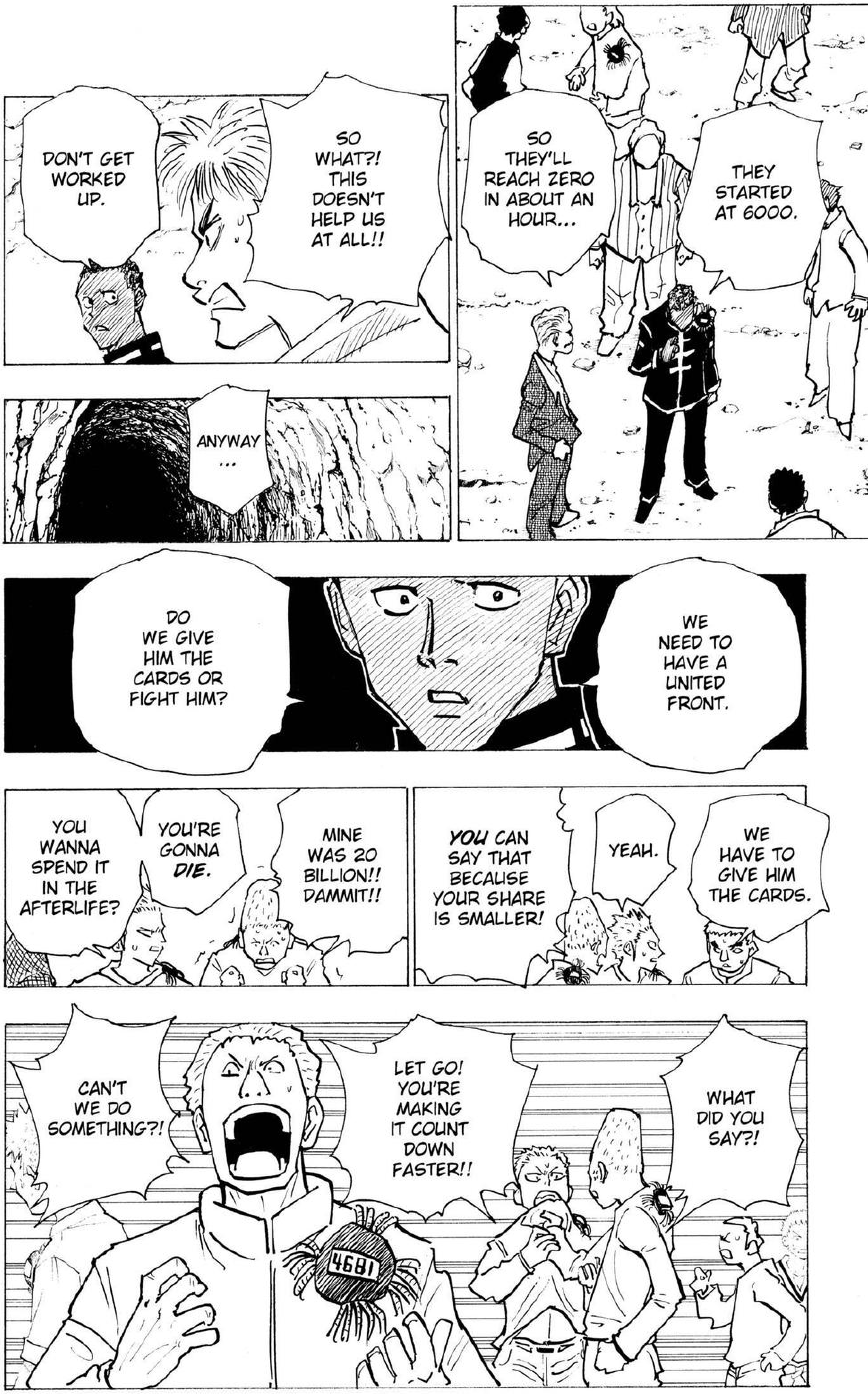

TALK IT OVER.
WE'LL MAKE THE EXCHANGE AT BATTERA'S CASTLE…WHERE THE CONSOLES ARE. CHOOSE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM AMONG YOU.
HE'LL COME ALONE.
ARE YOU CRAZY?
ALL WE GOTTA DO IS PIN YOU DOWN AND SAY THE PHRASE.
WE'D NEVER AGREE TO THAT DEAL.
5019
YOU'RE NOT GETTING AWAY WITH THIS.
YOU WON'T SET FOOT OUT OF THIS CAVE…!
HEH
FOOM!
BOOK!
SHI-
UNH!
FAP

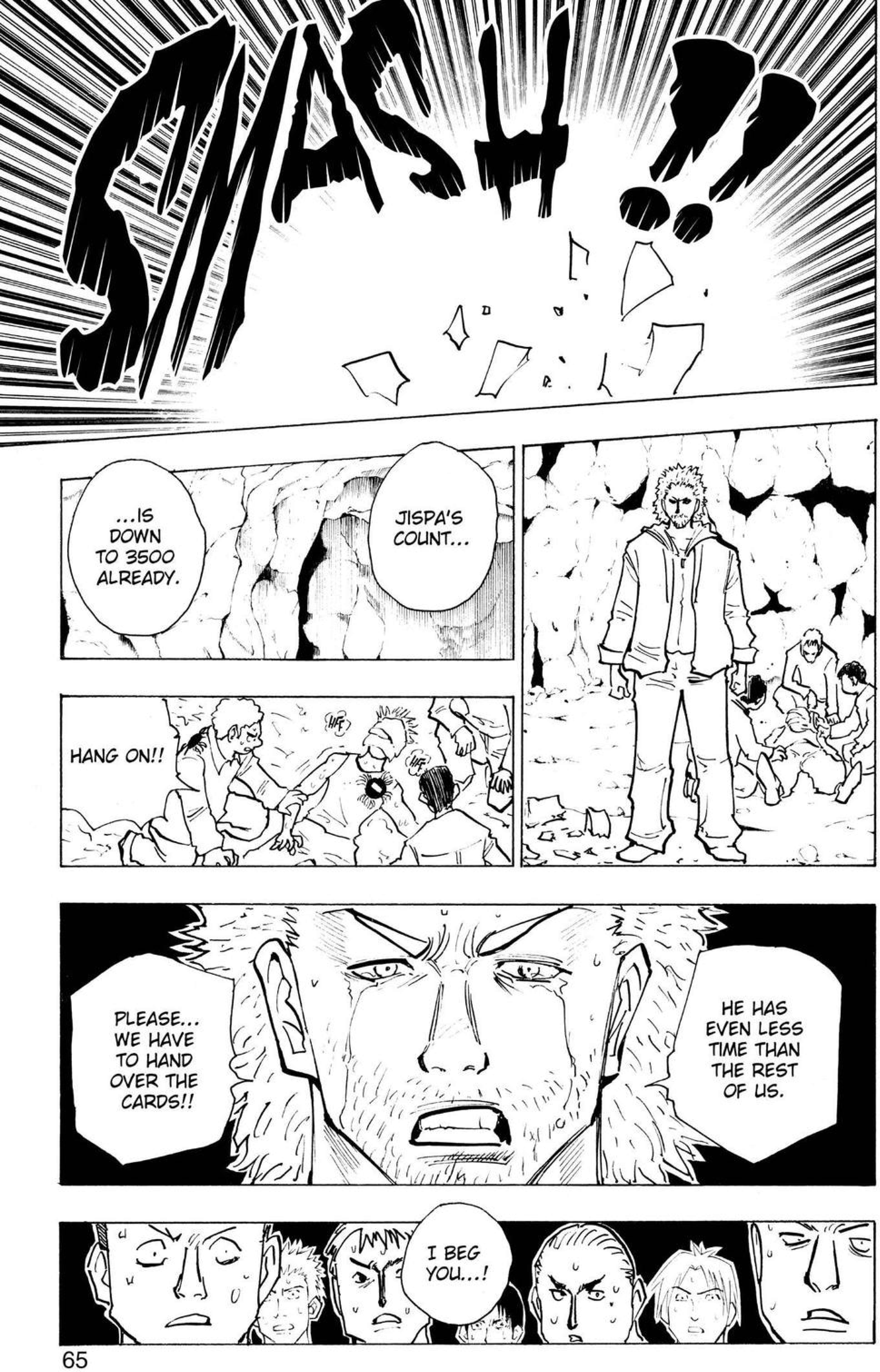

"LEAVE" ON!!
HA HA HA! SEE YOU SOON!!
ZOOM
...
HE LEFT THE GAME...!!
WE HAVE TO GO AFTER HIM!!
USE "LEAVE"!!
WAIT!! IF WE LEAVE THE GAME NOW, WE'LL LOSE OUR SPELL CARDS!!
TRANSFER THE CARDS IN YOUR FREE SLOTS TO SOMEONE ELSE!!
OR OUR WHOLE PLAN WILL BE RUINED!!
HOLD ON, WHAT IF HE GETS AWAY IN THE REAL WORLD?
WE'LL RUN OUT OF TIME AND DIE!
WE SHOULD TAKE THE DEAL...
NO WAY!!
WE HAVE NO GUARANTEE HE'LL ACTUALLY DISARM THE BOMBS!!

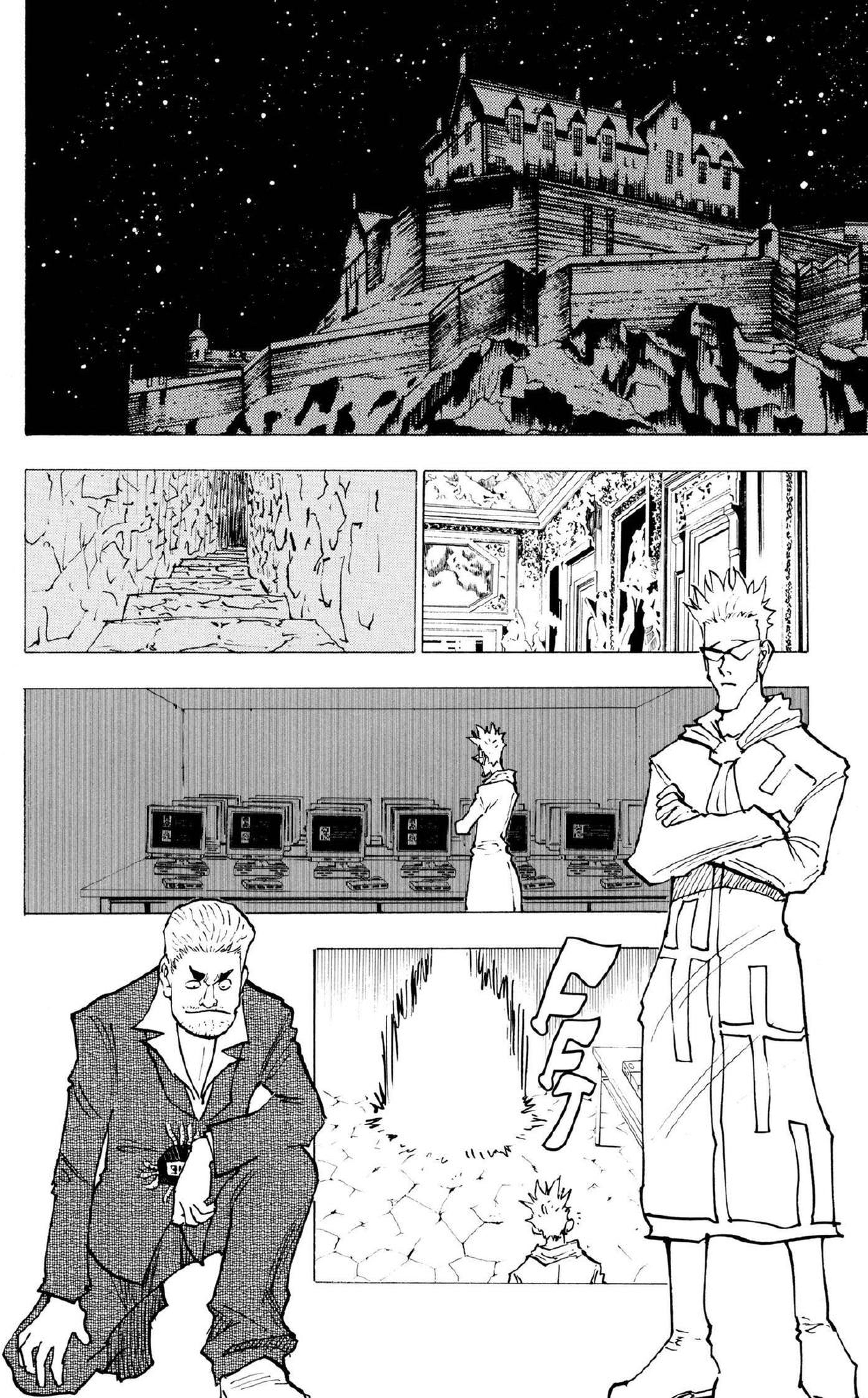

CALM DOWN!!
IT'S NOT A GOOD IDEA TO GO AFTER HIM!!
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN WHY WE BANDED TOGETHER?!
WE LACK COMBAT ABILITIES!!
5437
HE'S PROBABLY WITH HIS *REAL* ACCOMPLICES OUTSIDE THE GAME.
HE'S REVEALED HIS TRUE COLORS--HE'S A KILLING MACHINE!!
IS THERE ANYONE HERE WHO COULD BEAT HIM?!
NO... HE'S QUITE TALENTED.
HE CONJURED MORE THAN 60 BOMBS AT ONCE!! EACH IS POWERFUL ENOUGH TO BE FATAL, AND THEY ALSO FUNCTION AS TIME BOMBS.

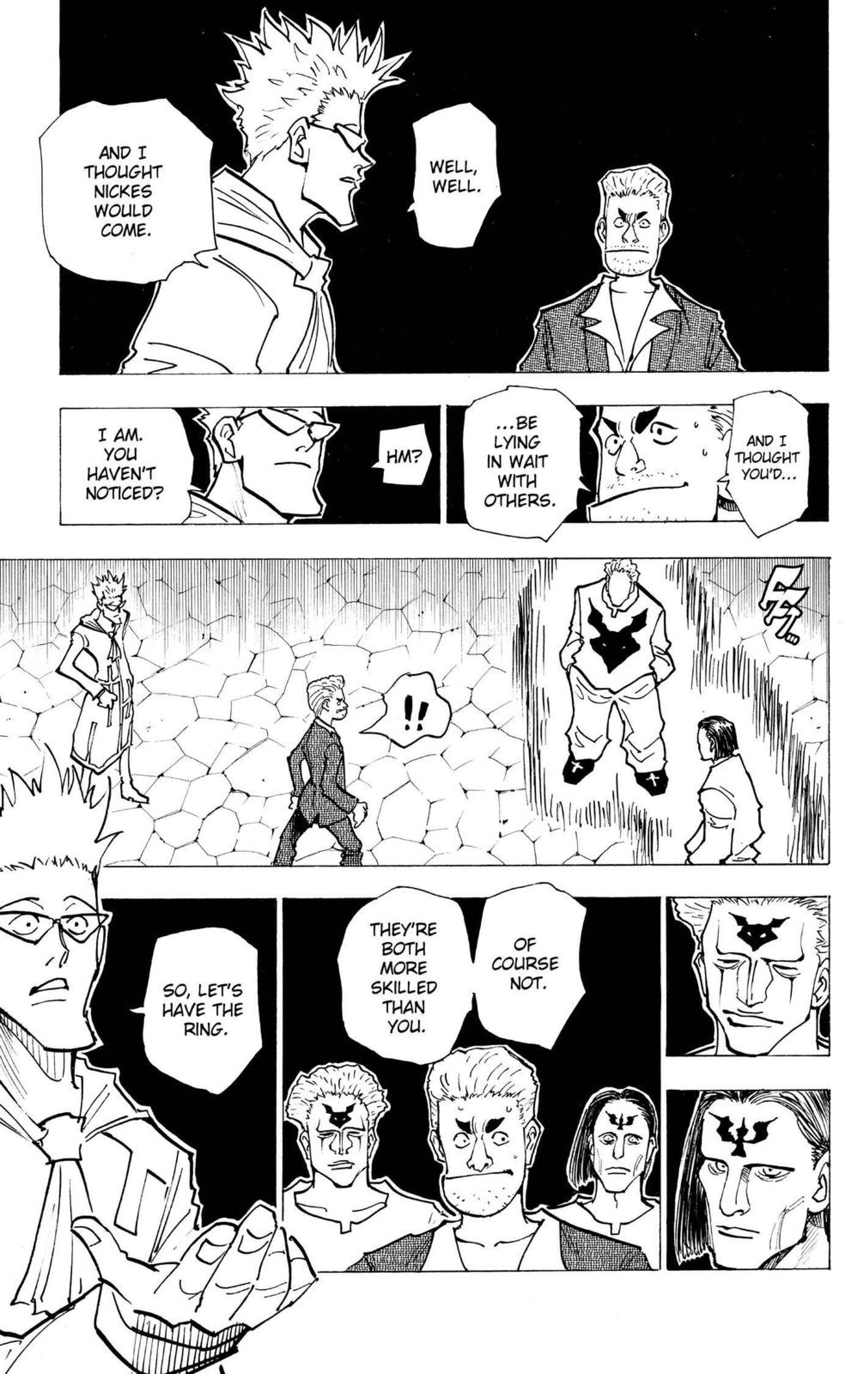

HE'S WELL BALANCED IN EMISSIVE, MANIPULATIVE, AND CONJURING ABILITIES.
AND HE WAS QUICK ON HIS FEET... EVEN IF ALL OF US HERE WERE TO GO AT HIM...
...HIS LITTLE FLOWER WOULD STOP US.
...
DAMN...!
AFTER WE'VE COME SO FAR...!!
HE'S BEEN PLANNING THIS...
...FOR FIVE YEARS, PROBABLY EVEN LONGER.
HE KEPT HUNTING PLAYERS AS THE BOMBER...
...SO IT WOULDN'T SEEM UNNATURAL TO USE IT AS THE KEYWORD!
HE KILLED ALL THOSE PEOPLE FOR *THAT?!*
"FOR THAT"?
ARE YOU KIDDING ME?! IT'S ***FIFTY BILLION JENNY!!***
THAT BASTARD...
...?

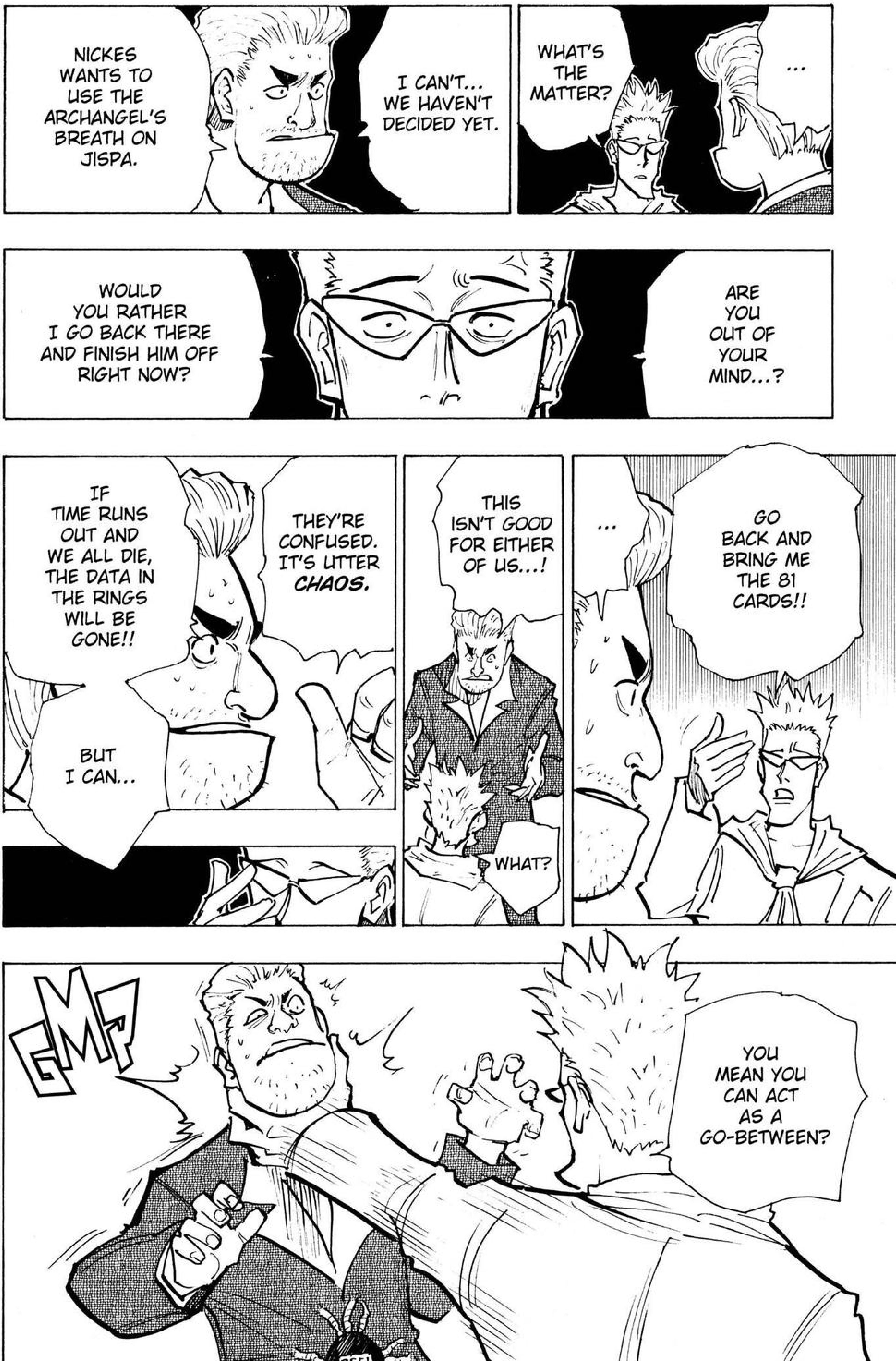

HEY...
THEY'RE COUNTING DOWN AT DIFFERENT SPEEDS!!
?
!
YOU'RE RIGHT...!!
5030
IS MINE FASTER THAN YOURS?!
WHY?!
DOES ANYONE KNOW?!
...
PUHAT, READ OFF MY NUMBER...
THE LOWEST DIGIT.
9
8
7
6
IT'S THE SAME AS MY PULSE.
!
THE BOMBS ARE LINKED TO OUR HEART RATES.
IF OUR HEARTS BEAT FASTER DUE TO STRESS OR EXERCISE, THEY COUNT DOWN FASTER.

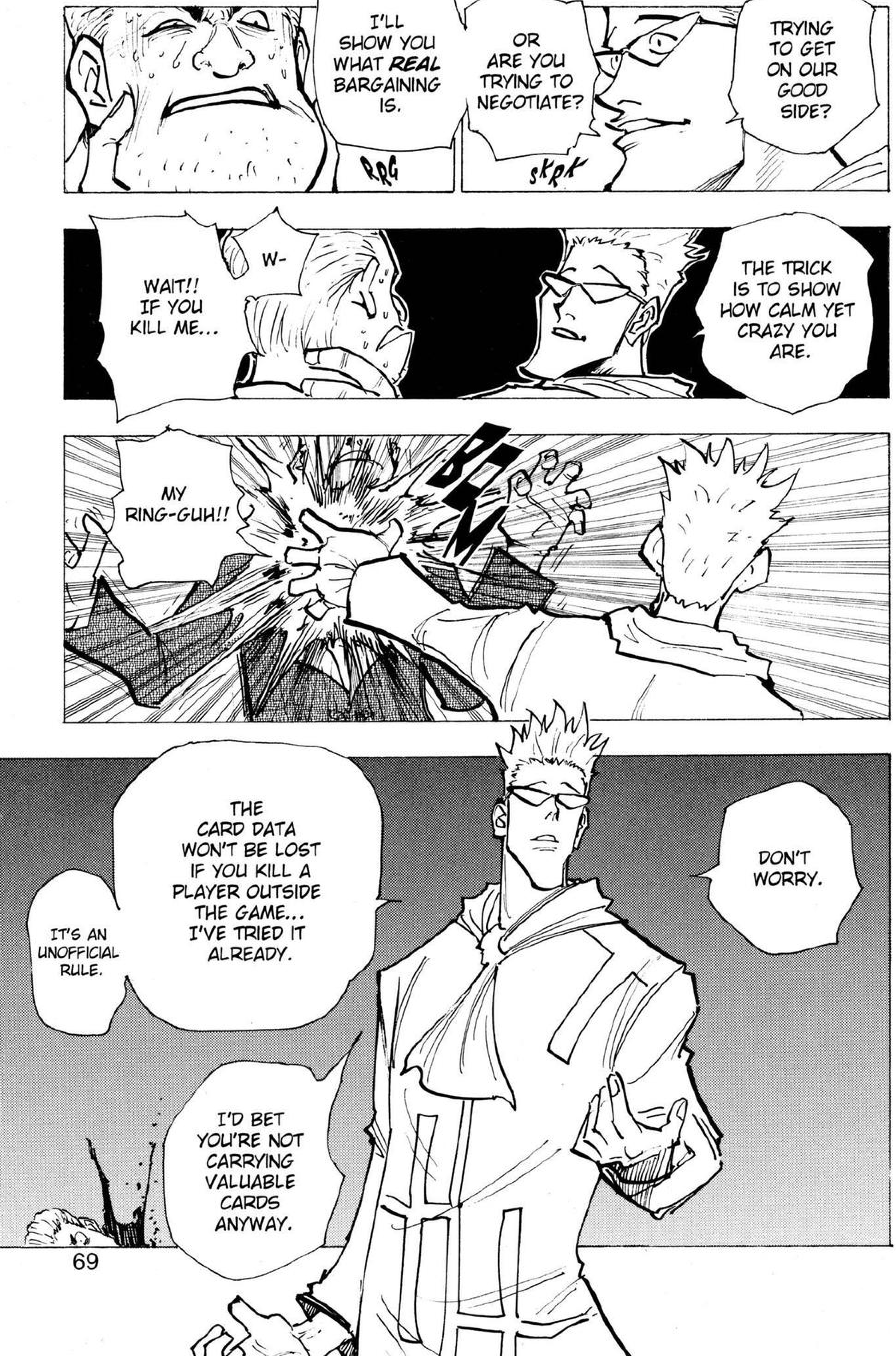

THEY STARTED AT 6000.
SO THEY'LL REACH ZERO IN ABOUT AN HOUR...
SO WHAT?! THIS DOESN'T HELP US AT ALL!!
DON'T GET WORKED UP.
ANYWAY...
WE NEED TO HAVE A UNITED FRONT.
DO WE GIVE HIM THE CARDS OR FIGHT HIM?
WE HAVE TO GIVE HIM THE CARDS.
YEAH.
YOU CAN SAY THAT BECAUSE YOUR SHARE IS SMALLER!
MINE WAS 20 BILLION!! DAMMIT!!
YOU'RE GONNA *DIE*.
YOU WANNA SPEND IT IN THE AFTERLIFE?
WHAT DID YOU SAY?!
LET GO! YOU'RE MAKING IT COUNT DOWN FASTER!!
CAN'T WE DO SOMETHING?!
4681

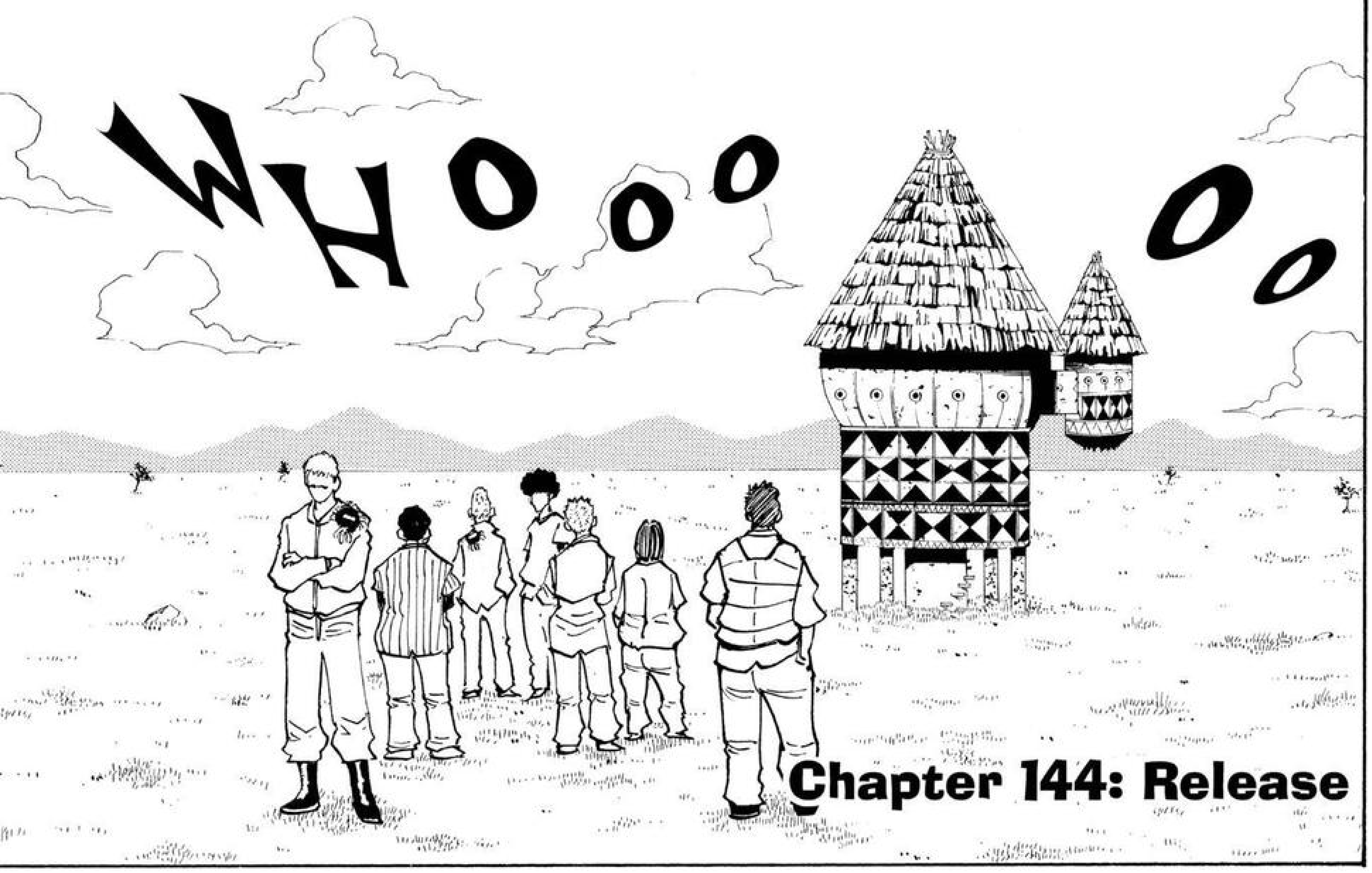

SMASH!!
JISPA'S COUNT...
...IS DOWN TO 3500 ALREADY.
HUF
HUF
HANG ON!!
HE HAS EVEN LESS TIME THAN THE REST OF US.
PLEASE... WE HAVE TO HAND OVER THE CARDS!!
I BEG YOU...!


FFT

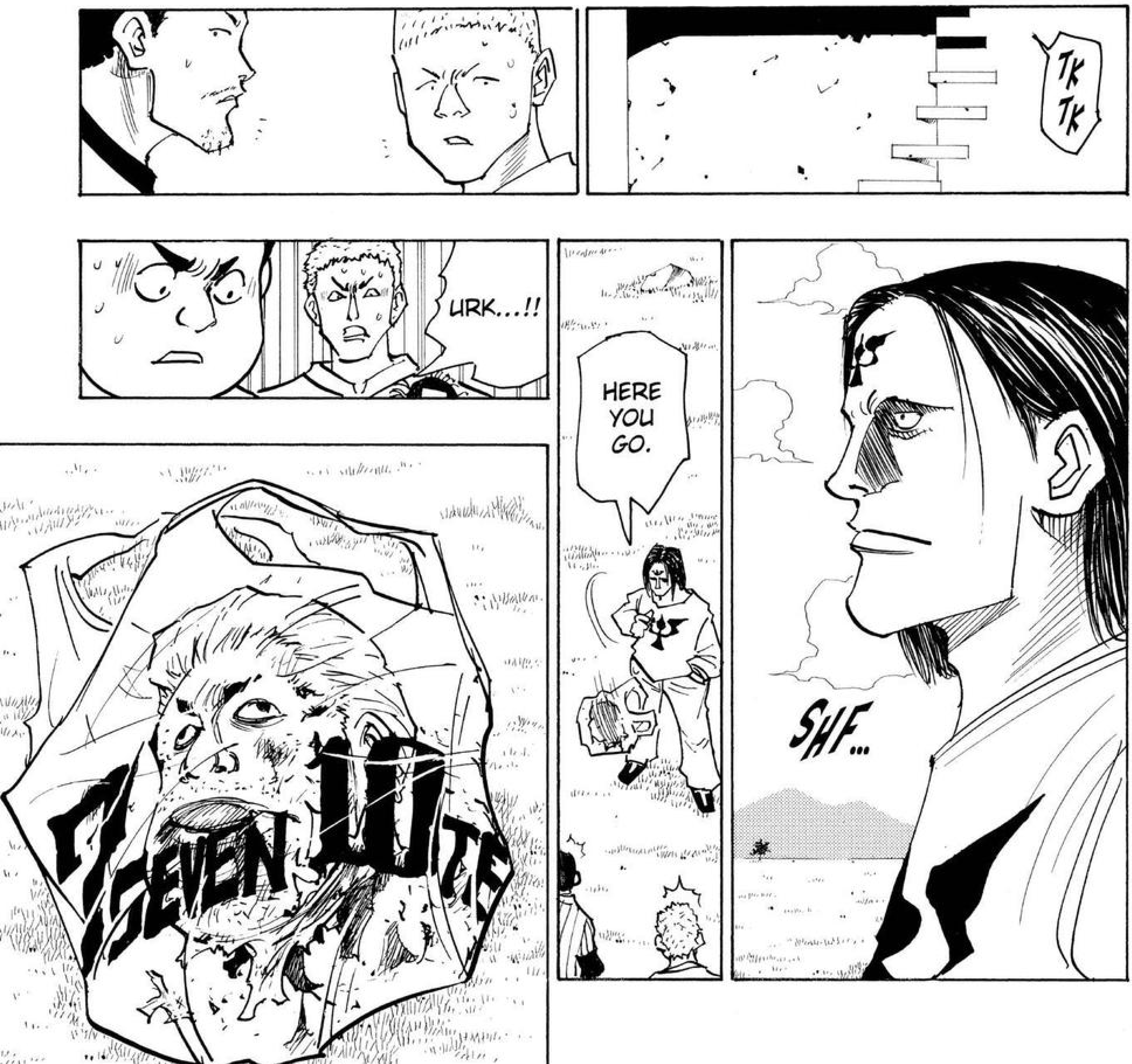

WELL, WELL.
AND I THOUGHT NICKES WOULD COME.
AND I THOUGHT YOU'D...
...BE LYING IN WAIT WITH OTHERS.
HM?
I AM. YOU HAVEN'T NOTICED?
!!
OF COURSE NOT.
THEY'RE BOTH MORE SKILLED THAN YOU.
SO, LET'S HAVE THE RING.

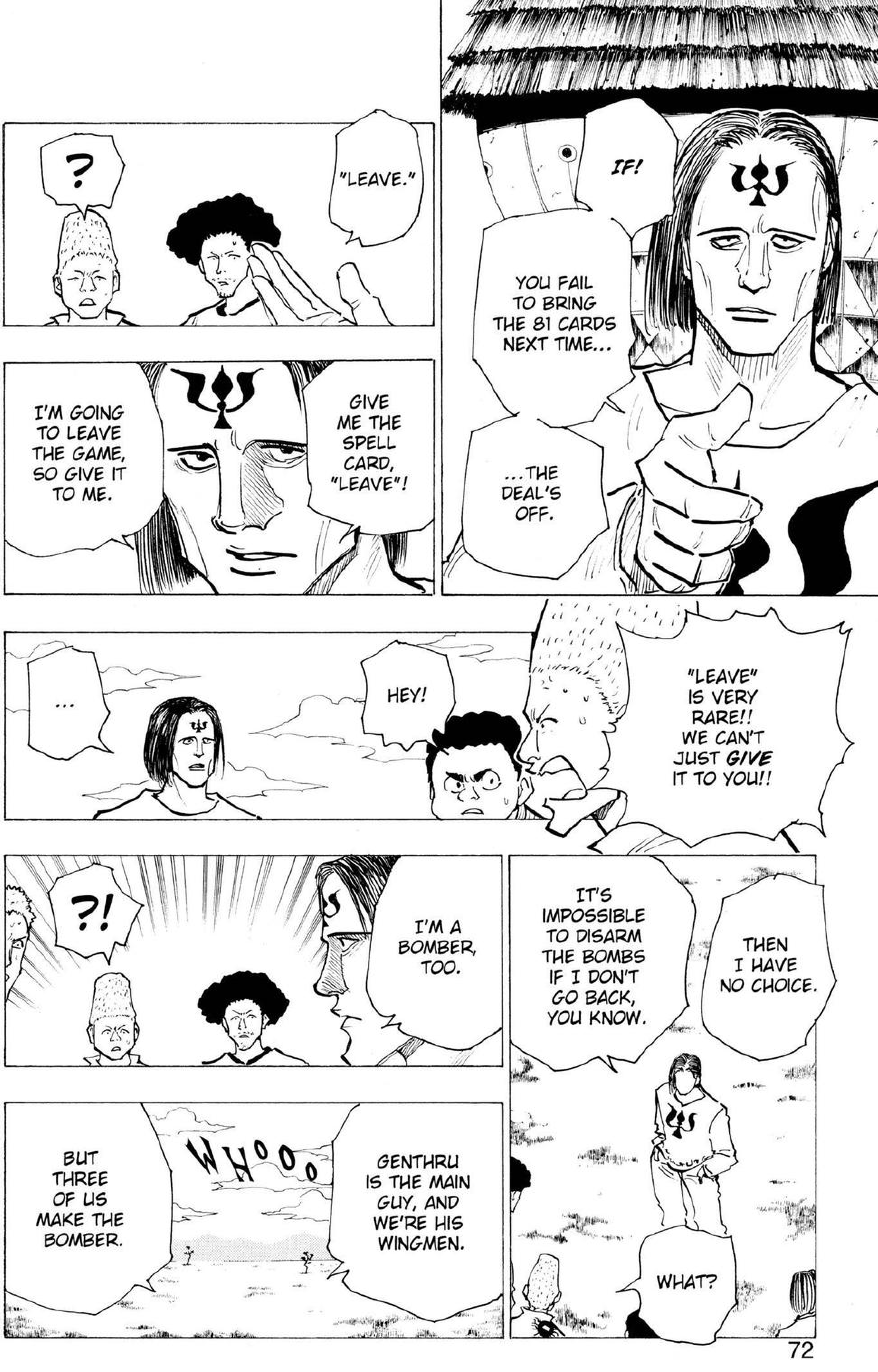

NICKES WANTS TO USE THE ARCHANGEL'S BREATH ON JISPA.
I CAN'T... WE HAVEN'T DECIDED YET.
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
...
WOULD YOU RATHER I GO BACK THERE AND FINISH HIM OFF RIGHT NOW?
ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND...?
IF TIME RUNS OUT AND WE ALL DIE, THE DATA IN THE RINGS WILL BE GONE!!
THEY'RE CONFUSED. IT'S UTTER *CHAOS.*
BUT I CAN...
THIS ISN'T GOOD FOR EITHER OF US...!
WHAT?
...
GO BACK AND BRING ME THE 81 CARDS!!
GMP
YOU MEAN YOU CAN ACT AS A GO-BETWEEN?


TRYING TO GET ON OUR GOOD SIDE?
OR ARE YOU TRYING TO NEGOTIATE?
sKRK
I'LL SHOW YOU WHAT ***REAL*** BARGAINING IS.
RRG
THE TRICK IS TO SHOW HOW CALM YET CRAZY YOU ARE.
W-
WAIT!! IF YOU KILL ME...
BOOM
MY RING-GUH!!
DON'T WORRY.
THE CARD DATA WON'T BE LOST IF YOU KILL A PLAYER OUTSIDE THE GAME... I'VE TRIED IT ALREADY.
IT'S AN UNOFFICIAL RULE.
I'D BET YOU'RE NOT CARRYING VALUABLE CARDS ANYWAY.

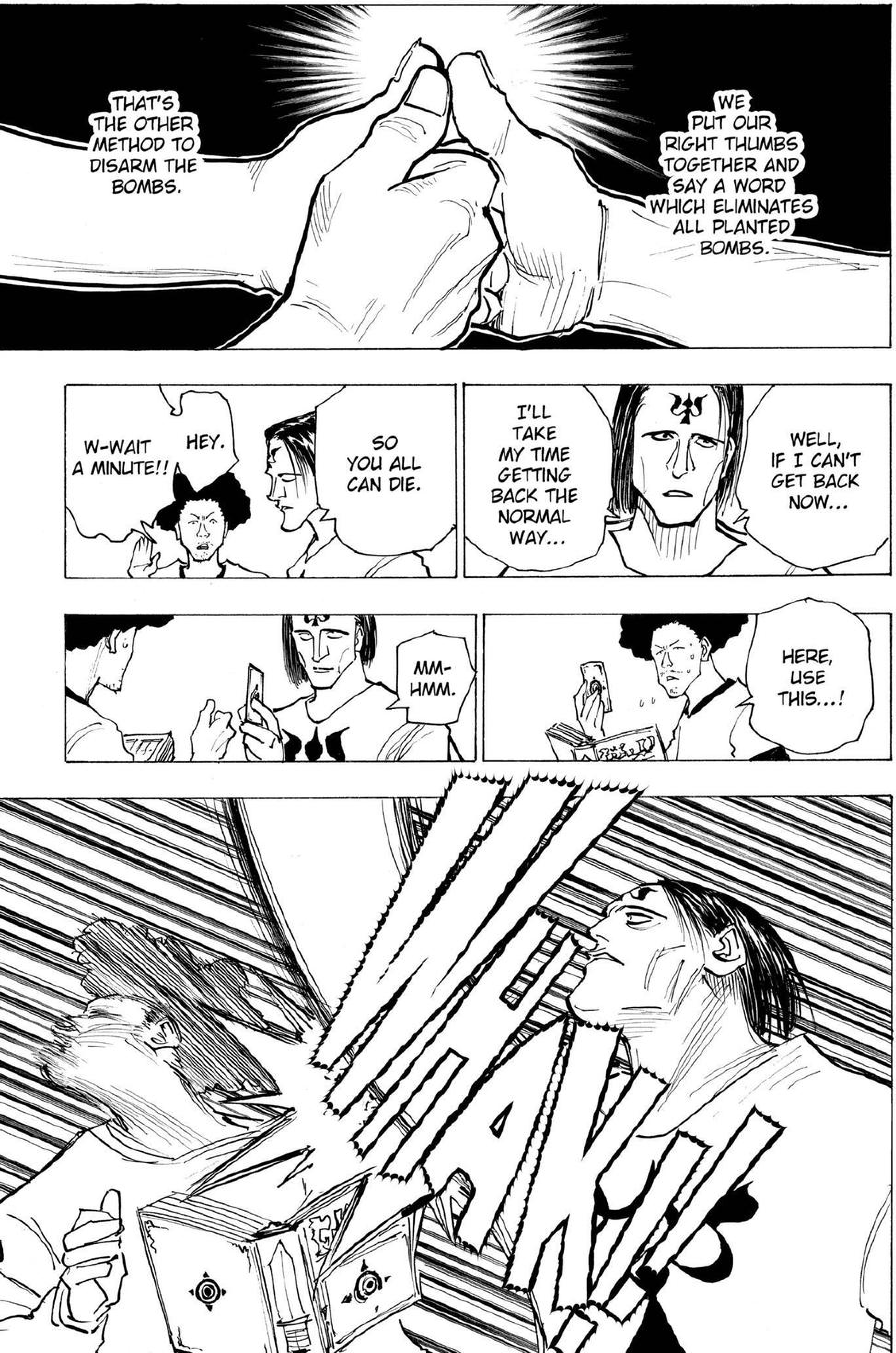


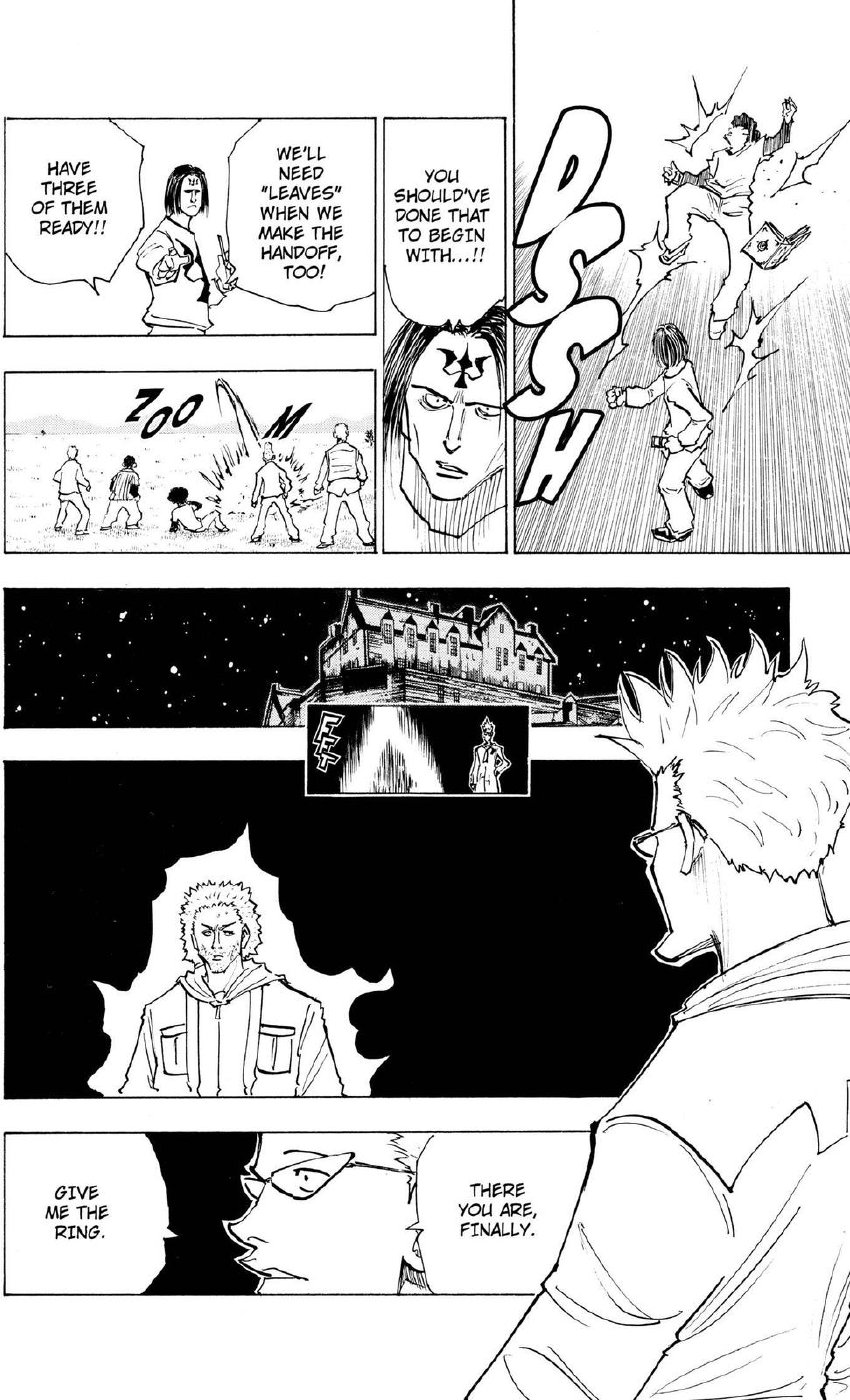
Chapter 144: Release

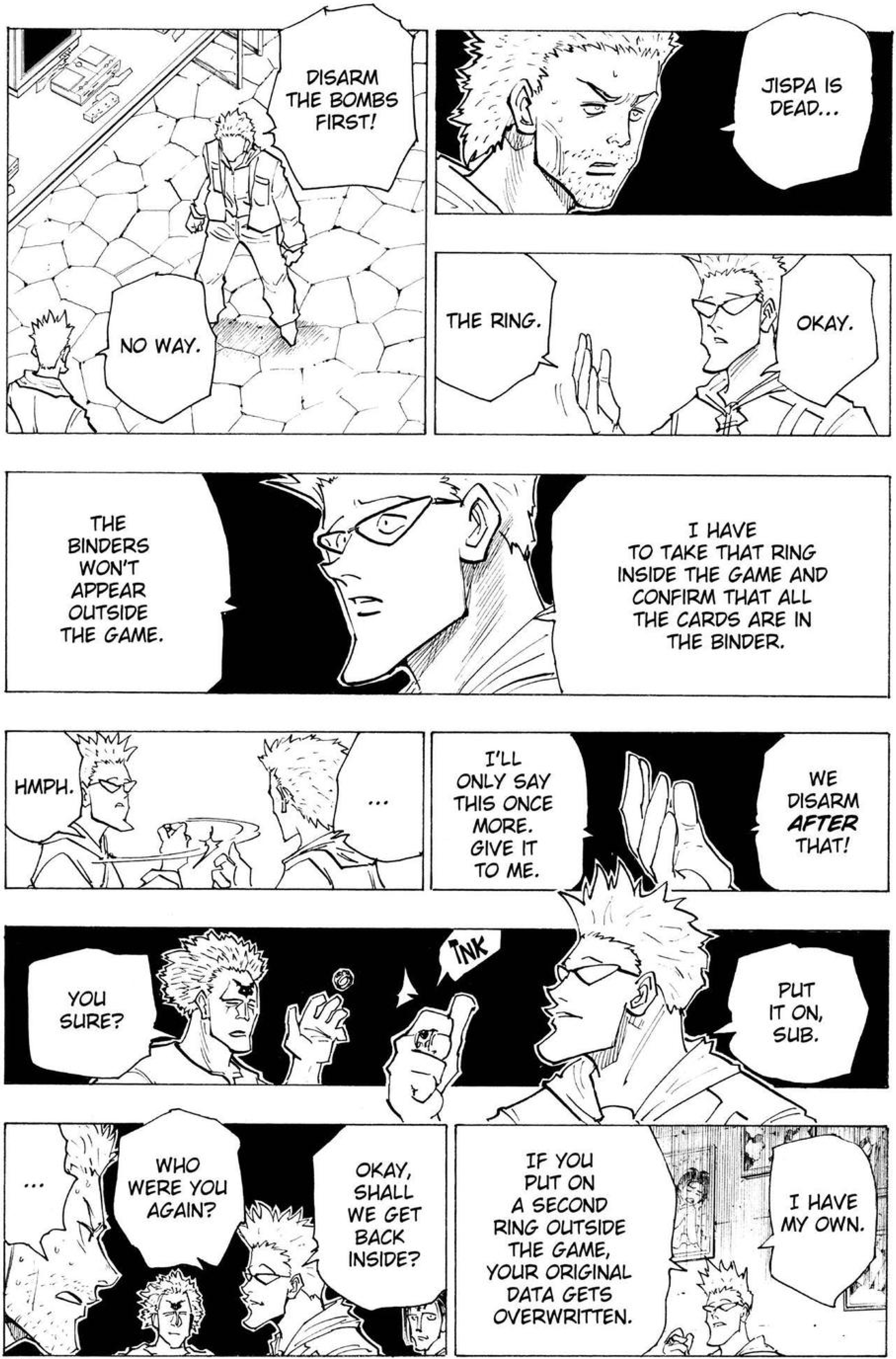

TK TK
SHF...
HERE YOU GO.
URK...!!
SEVEN LUTE

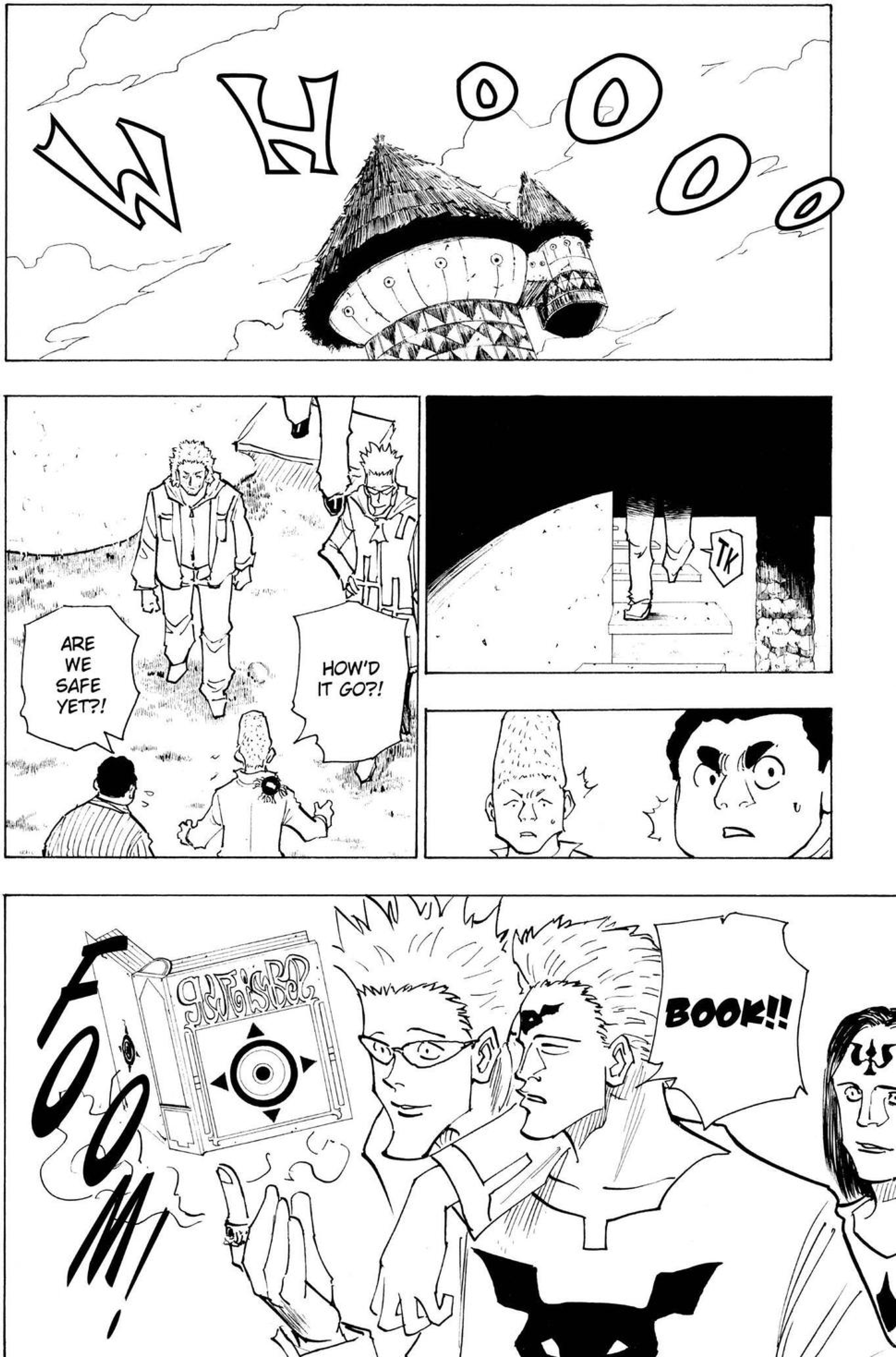

IF!
YOU FAIL TO BRING THE 81 CARDS NEXT TIME...
...THE DEAL'S OFF.
"LEAVE."
?
GIVE ME THE SPELL CARD, "LEAVE"!
I'M GOING TO LEAVE THE GAME, SO GIVE IT TO ME.
"LEAVE" IS VERY RARE!! WE CAN'T JUST ***GIVE*** IT TO YOU!!
HEY!
...
THEN I HAVE NO CHOICE.
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO DISARM THE BOMBS IF I DON'T GO BACK, YOU KNOW.
WHAT?
I'M A BOMBER, TOO.
?!
GENTHRU IS THE MAIN GUY, AND WE'RE HIS WINGMEN.
WHOOO
BUT THREE OF US MAKE THE BOMBER.

READ THIS WAY

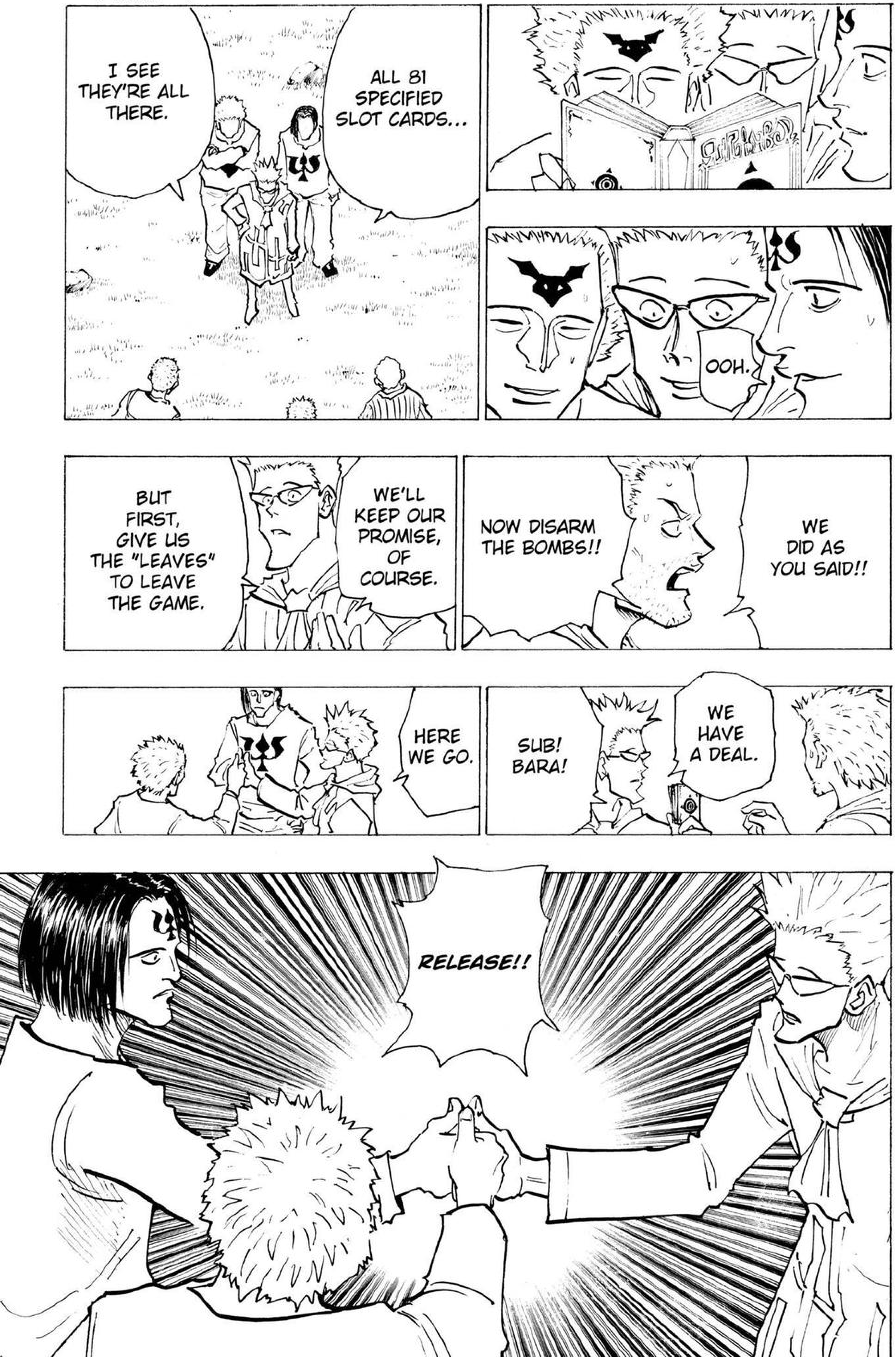

WE PUT OUR RIGHT THUMBS TOGETHER AND SAY A WORD WHICH ELIMINATES ALL PLANTED BOMBS.
THAT'S THE OTHER METHOD TO DISARM THE BOMBS.
WELL, IF I CAN'T GET BACK NOW...
I'LL TAKE MY TIME GETTING BACK THE NORMAL WAY...
SO YOU ALL CAN DIE.
HEY.
W-WAIT A MINUTE!!
HERE, USE THIS...!
MM-HMM.
WHAK!!

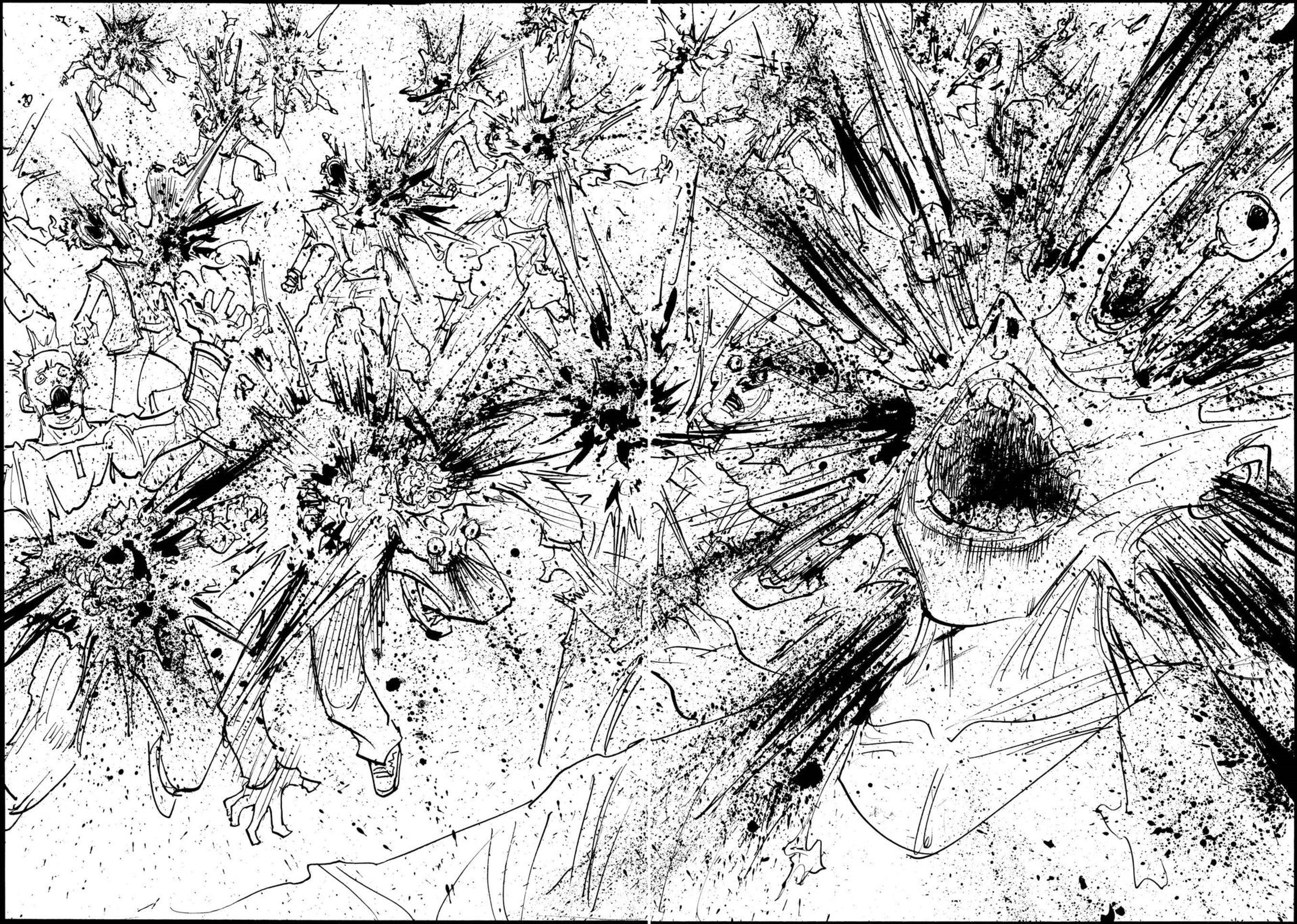

DSSSH
YOU SHOULD'VE DONE THAT TO BEGIN WITH...!!
WE'LL NEED "LEAVES" WHEN WE MAKE THE HANDOFF, TOO!
HAVE THREE OF THEM READY!!
ZOOOM
FFF
THERE YOU ARE, FINALLY.
GIVE ME THE RING.

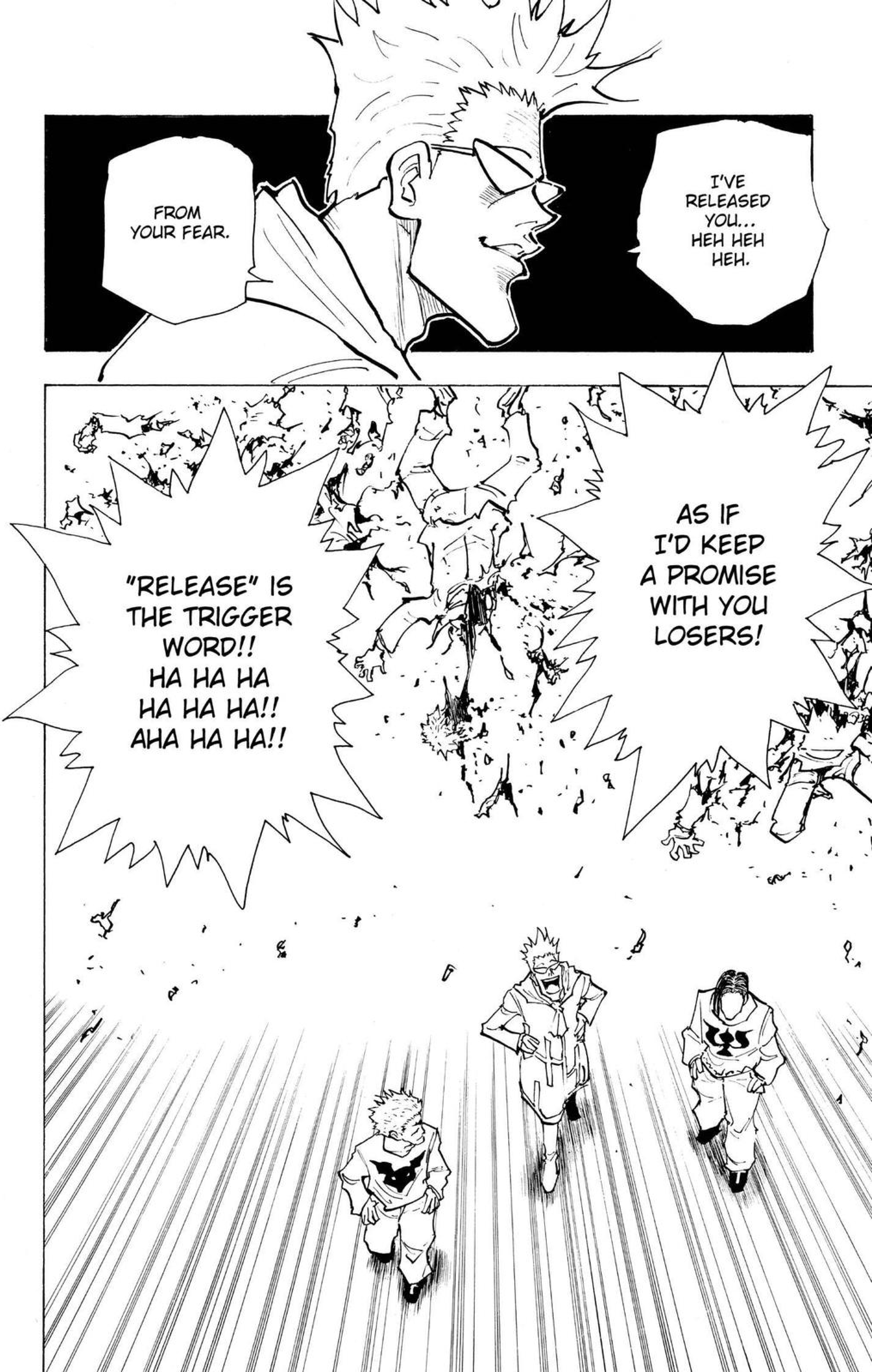

JISPA IS DEAD...
OKAY.
THE RING.
DISARM THE BOMBS FIRST!
NO WAY.
I HAVE TO TAKE THAT RING INSIDE THE GAME AND CONFIRM THAT ALL THE CARDS ARE IN THE BINDER.
THE BINDERS WON'T APPEAR OUTSIDE THE GAME.
WE DISARM **AFTER** THAT!
I'LL ONLY SAY THIS ONCE MORE. GIVE IT TO ME.
...
HMPH.
PUT IT ON, SUB.
TINK
YOU SURE?
I HAVE MY OWN.
IF YOU PUT ON A SECOND RING OUTSIDE THE GAME, YOUR ORIGINAL DATA GETS OVERWRITTEN.
OKAY, SHALL WE GET BACK INSIDE?
WHO WERE YOU AGAIN?
...

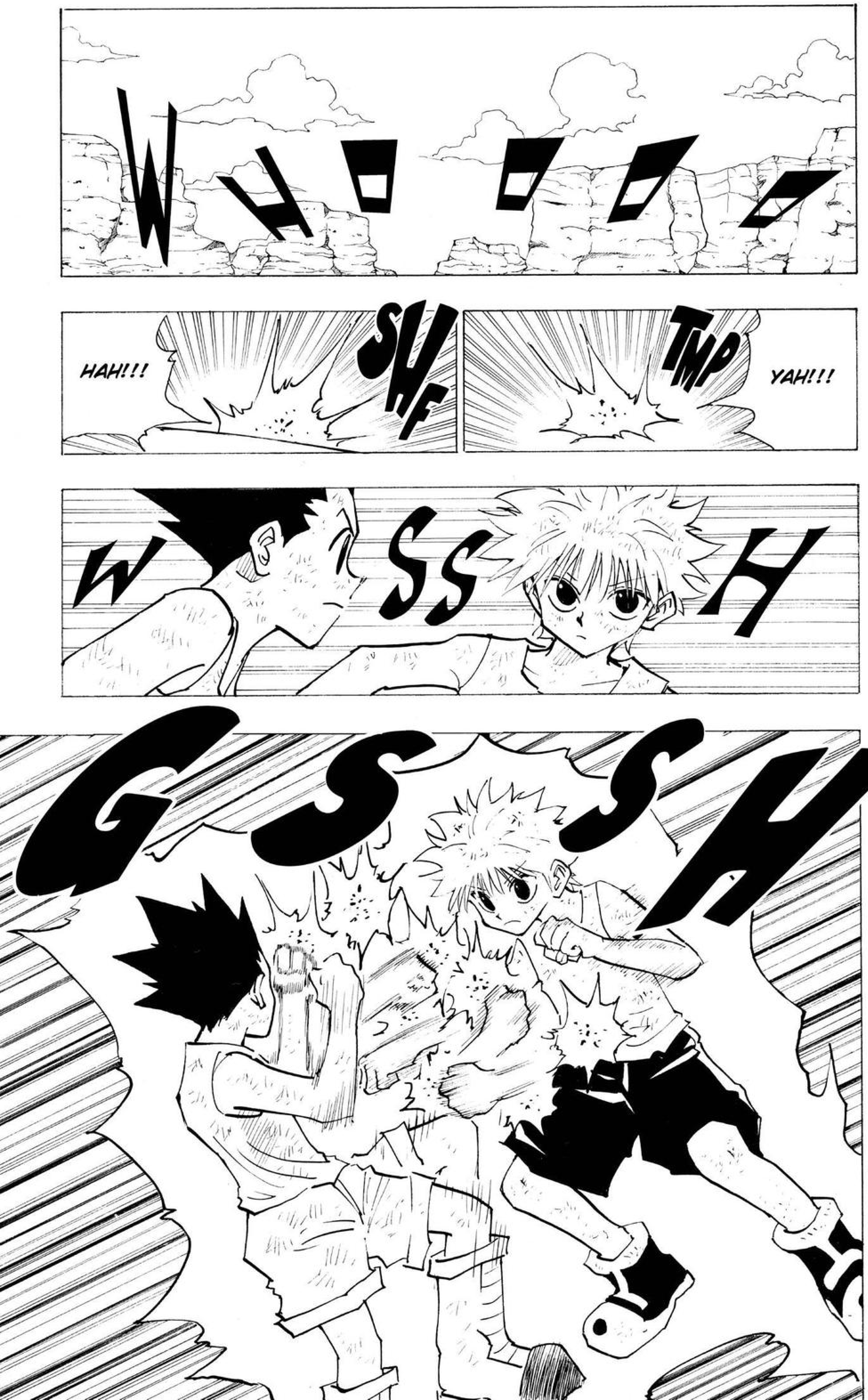

WHOOOOO
TK
HOW'D IT GO?!
ARE WE SAFE YET?!
BOOK!!
FOOM!

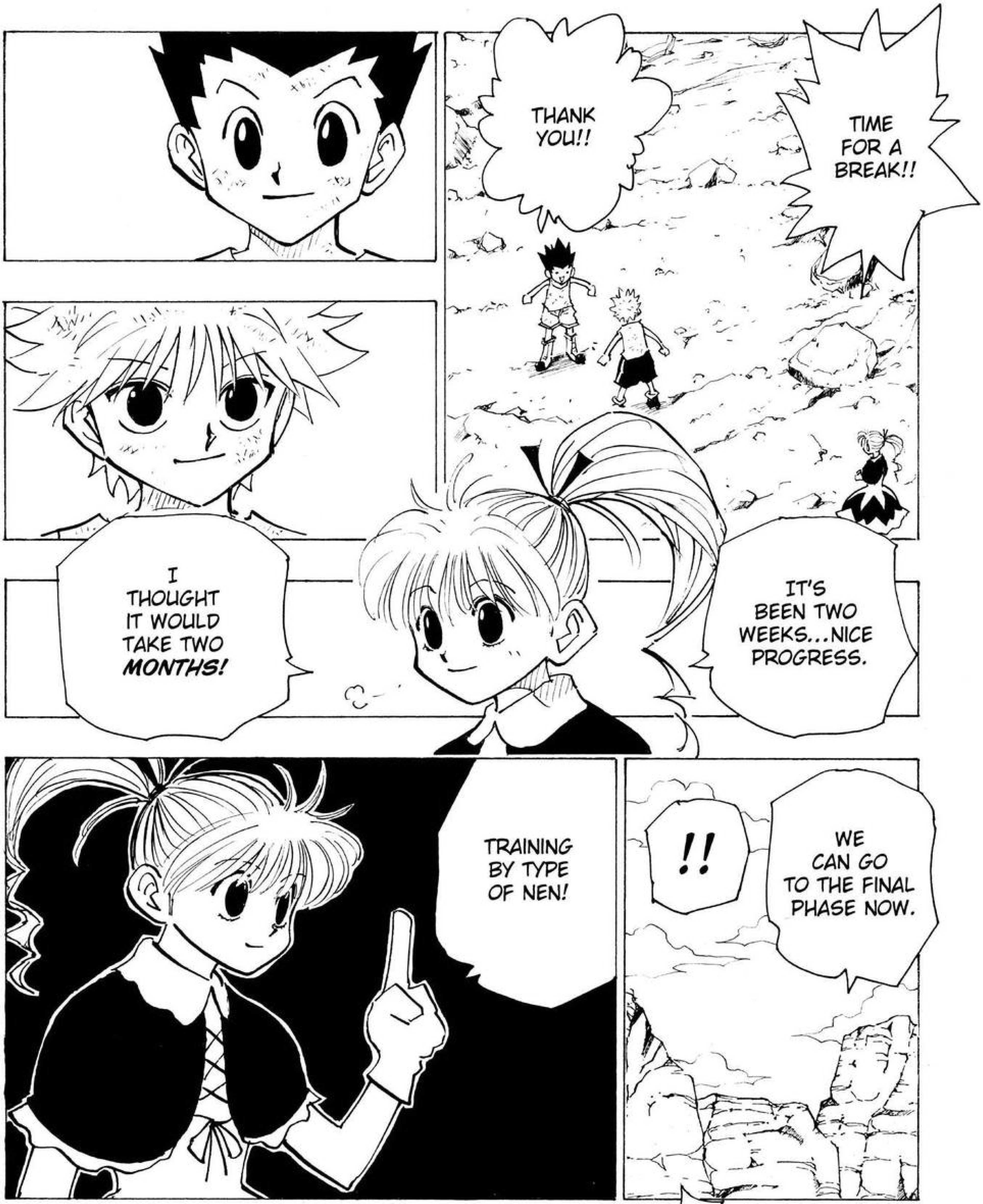
READ
THIS
WAY

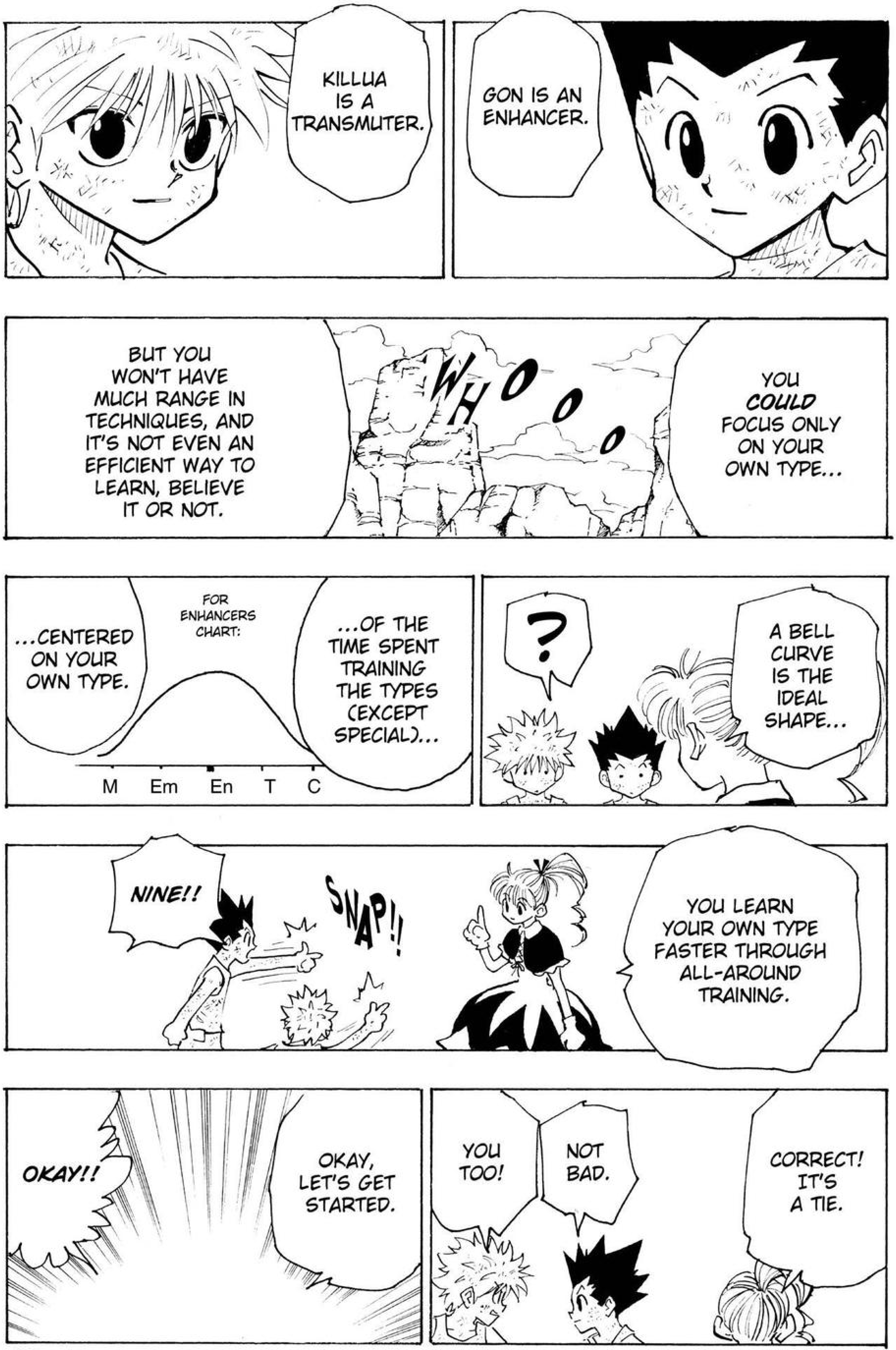

OOH.
ALL 81 SPECIFIED SLOT CARDS…
I SEE THEY'RE ALL THERE.
WE DID AS YOU SAID!!
NOW DISARM THE BOMBS!!
WE'LL KEEP OUR PROMISE, OF COURSE.
BUT FIRST, GIVE US THE "LEAVES" TO LEAVE THE GAME.
WE HAVE A DEAL.
SUB! BARA!
HERE WE GO.
RELEASE!!

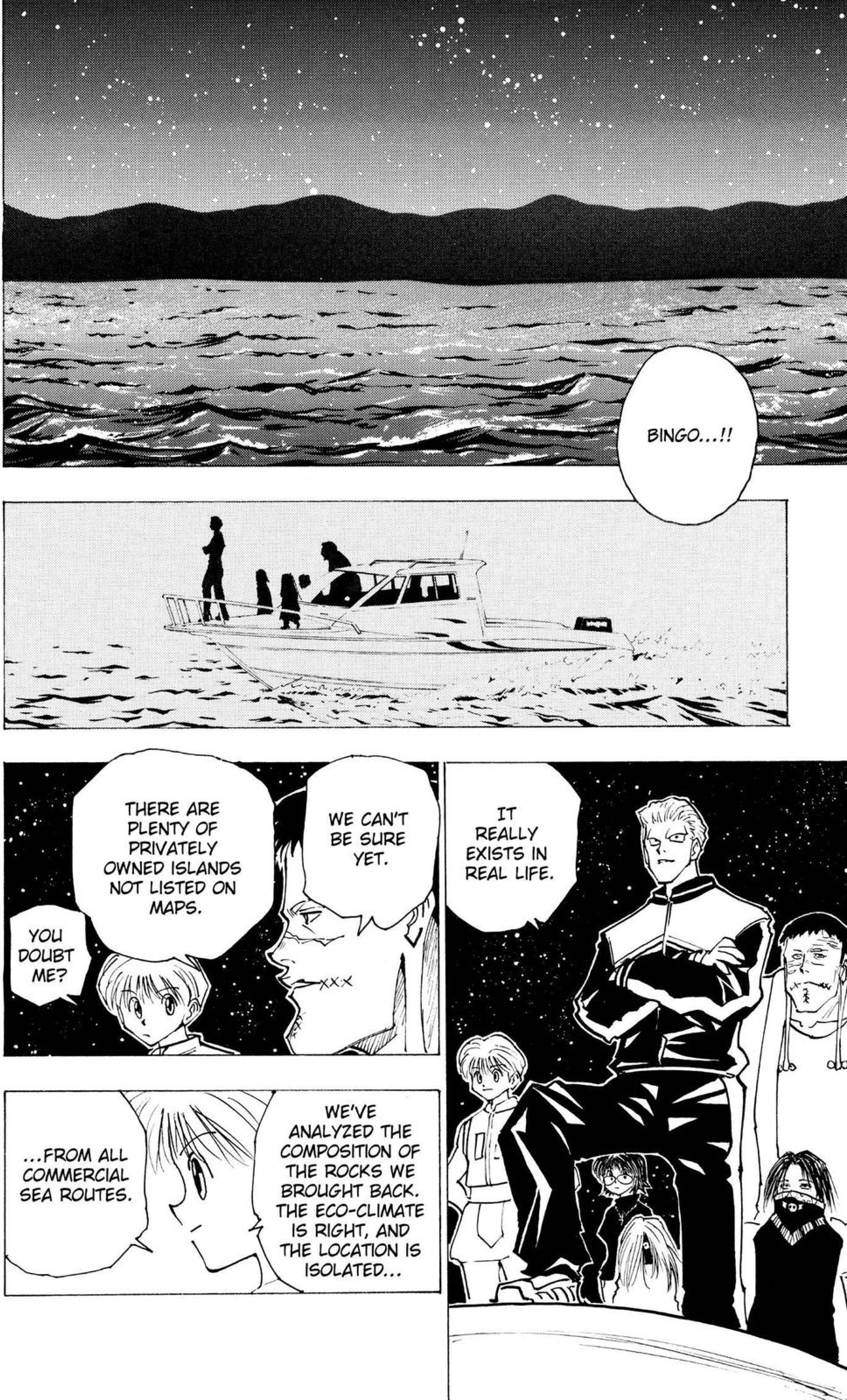


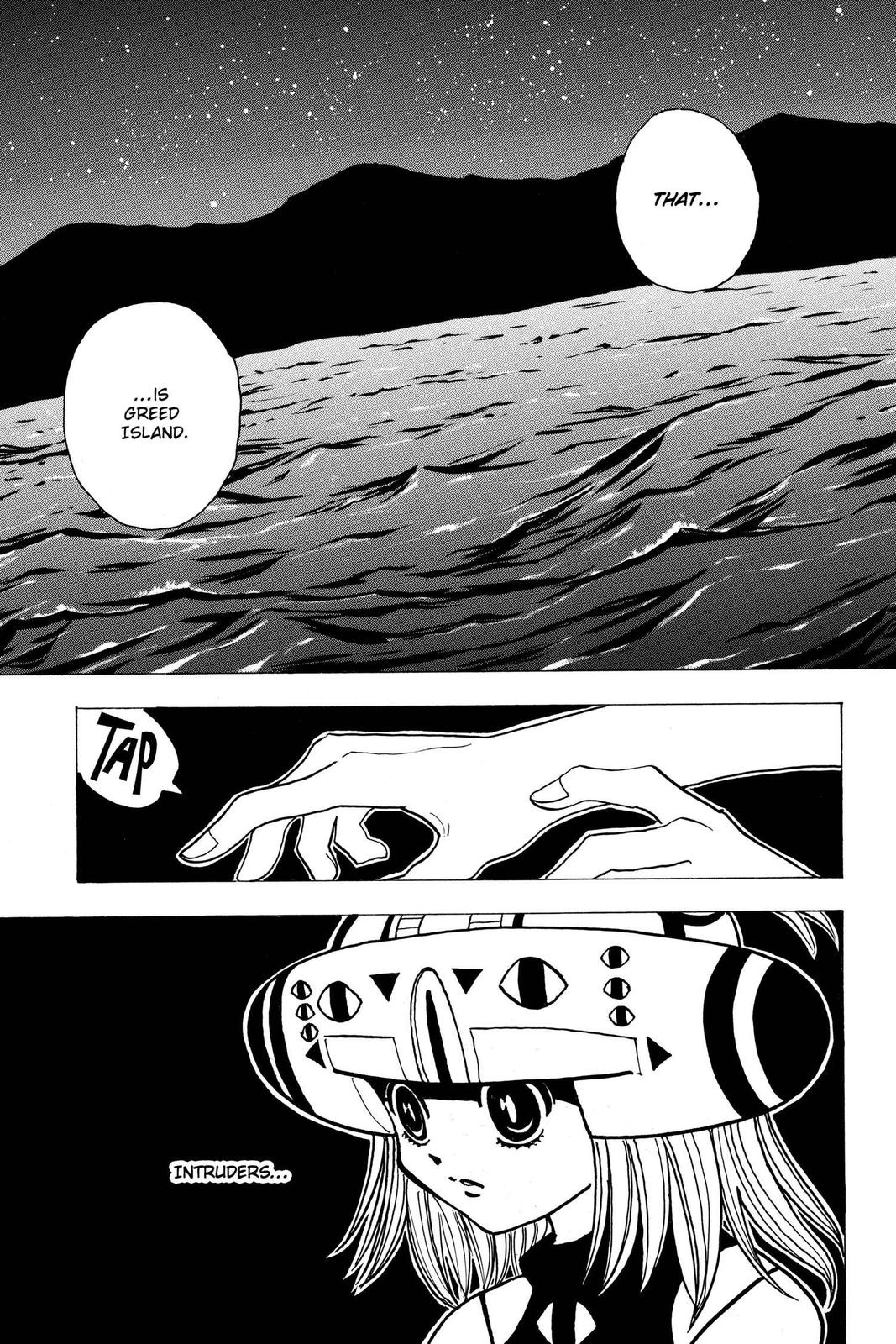

I'VE RELEASED YOU... HEH HEH HEH.
FROM YOUR FEAR.
AS IF I'D KEEP A PROMISE WITH YOU LOSERS!
"RELEASE" IS THE TRIGGER WORD!! HA HA HA HA HA HA!! AHA HA HA!!


WHOOOO
TMP
YAH!!!
SHF
HAH!!!
WSSH
GSSH

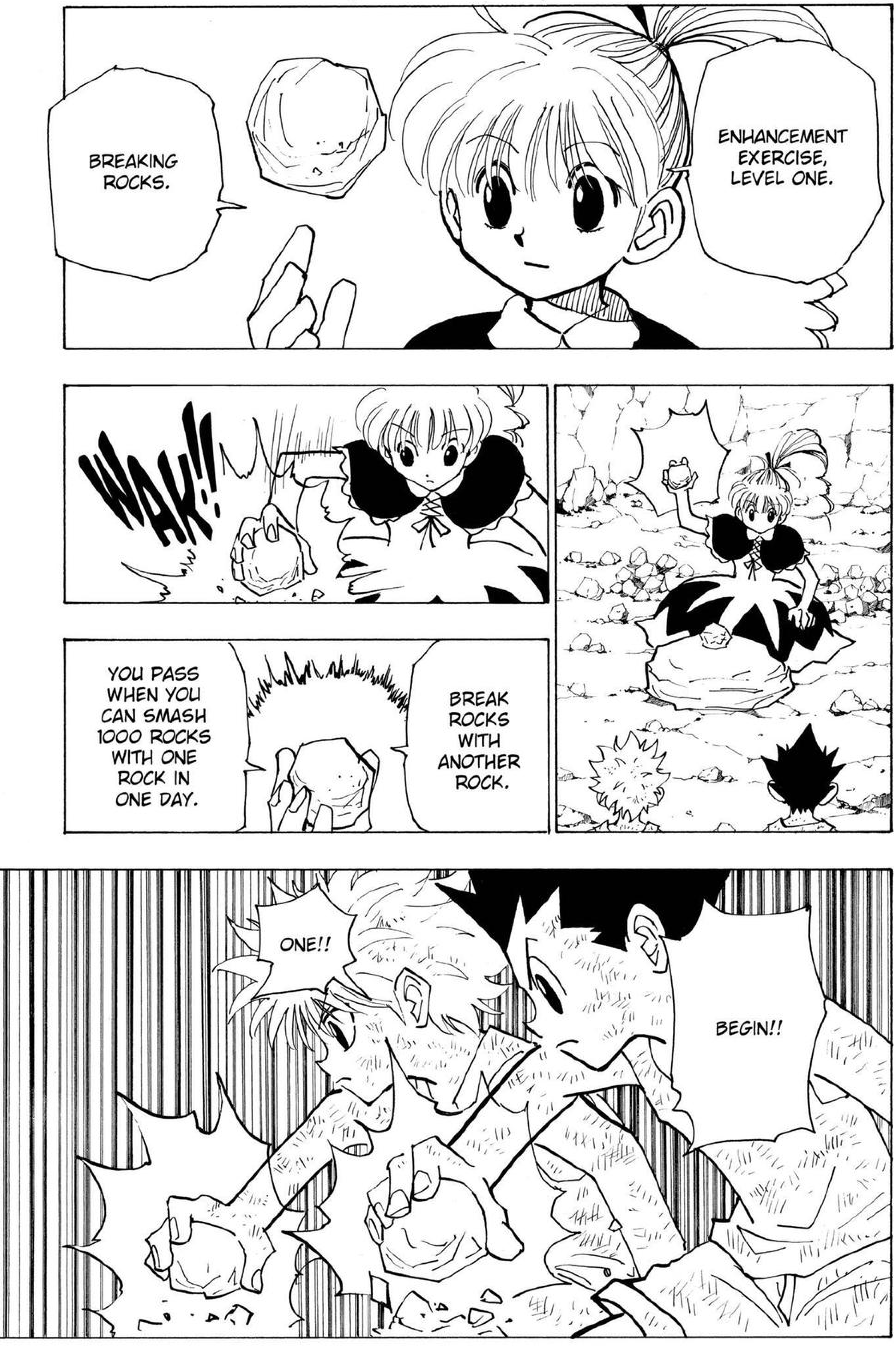

TIME FOR A BREAK!!
THANK YOU!!
IT'S BEEN TWO WEEKS...NICE PROGRESS.
I THOUGHT IT WOULD TAKE TWO *MONTHS!*
WE CAN GO TO THE FINAL PHASE NOW.
!!
TRAINING BY TYPE OF NEN!
THREE!!
CORRECT!
IT'S A TIE!

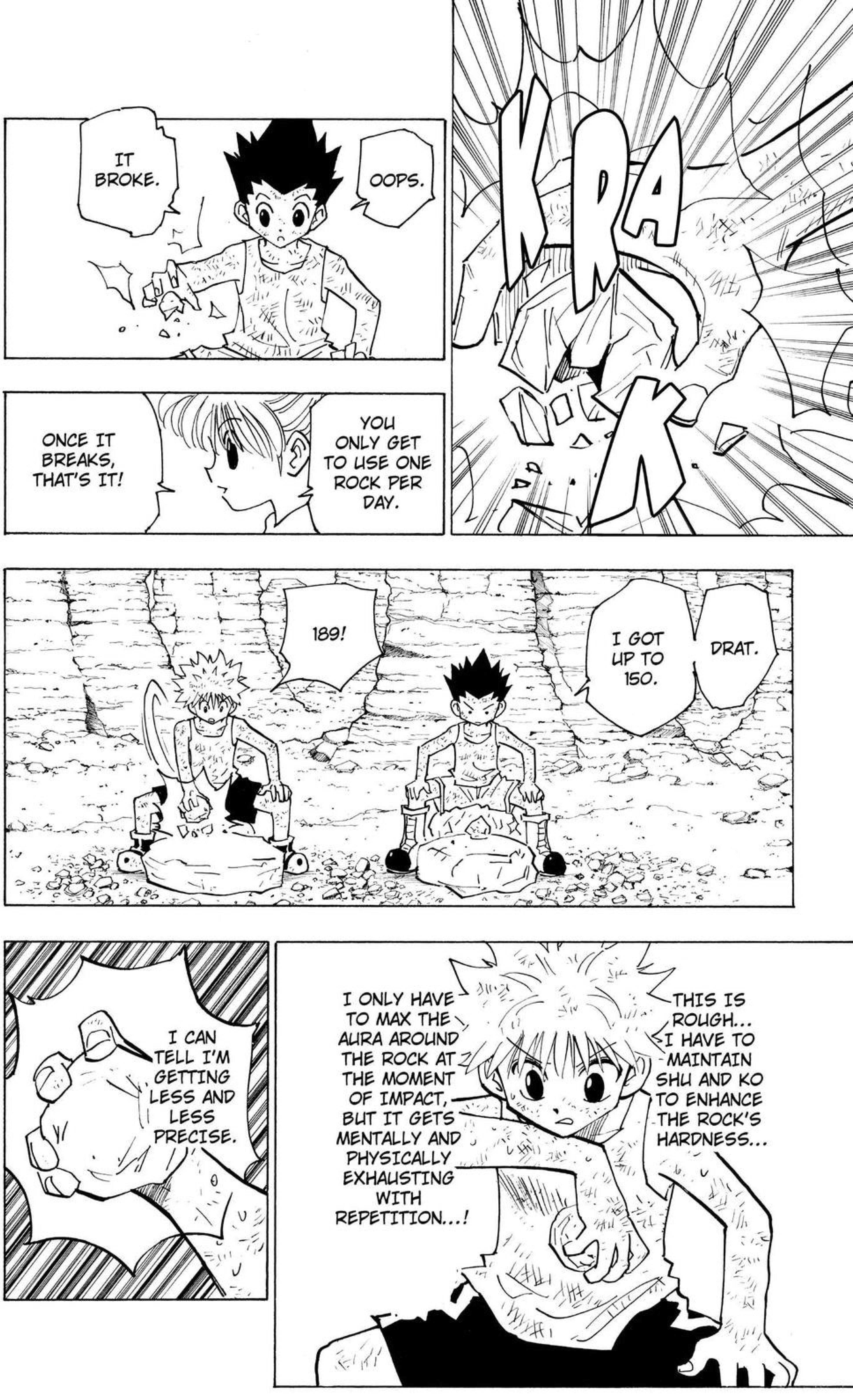

GON IS AN ENHANCER.
KILLUA IS A TRANSMUTER.
YOU **COULD** FOCUS ONLY ON YOUR OWN TYPE...
WHOOOO
BUT YOU WON'T HAVE MUCH RANGE IN TECHNIQUES, AND IT'S NOT EVEN AN EFFICIENT WAY TO LEARN, BELIEVE IT OR NOT.
A BELL CURVE IS THE IDEAL SHAPE...
?
...OF THE TIME SPENT TRAINING THE TYPES (EXCEPT SPECIAL)...
FOR ENHANCERS CHART:
M Em En T C
...CENTERED ON YOUR OWN TYPE.
YOU LEARN YOUR OWN TYPE FASTER THROUGH ALL-AROUND TRAINING.
SNAP!!
NINE!!
CORRECT! IT'S A TIE.
NOT BAD.
YOU TOO!
OKAY, LET'S GET STARTED.
OKAY!!

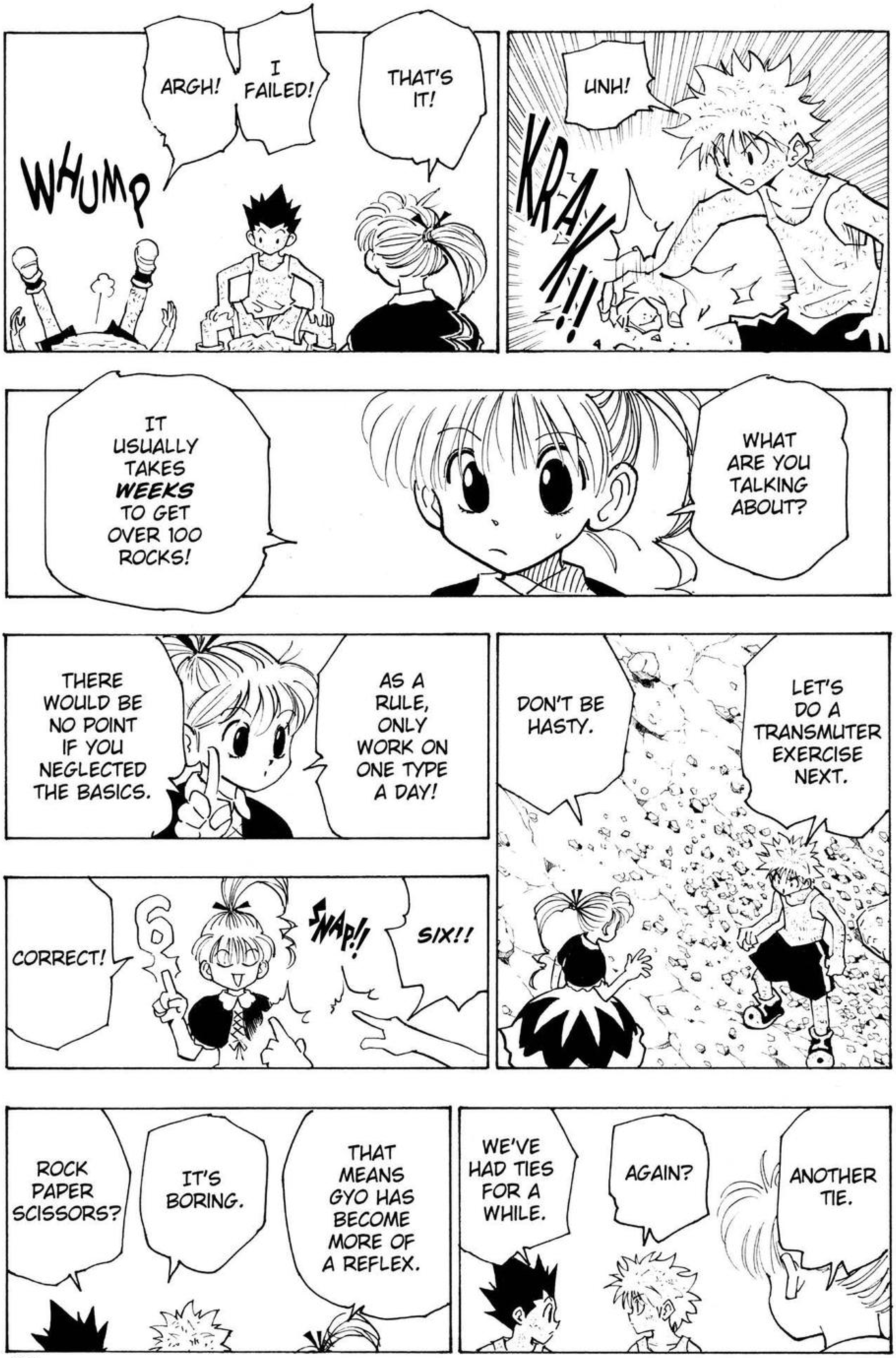

BINGO…!!
IT REALLY EXISTS IN REAL LIFE.
WE CAN'T BE SURE YET.
THERE ARE PLENTY OF PRIVATELY OWNED ISLANDS NOT LISTED ON MAPS.
YOU DOUBT ME?
WE'VE ANALYZED THE COMPOSITION OF THE ROCKS WE BROUGHT BACK. THE ECO-CLIMATE IS RIGHT, AND THE LOCATION IS ISOLATED…
…FROM ALL COMMERCIAL SEA ROUTES.

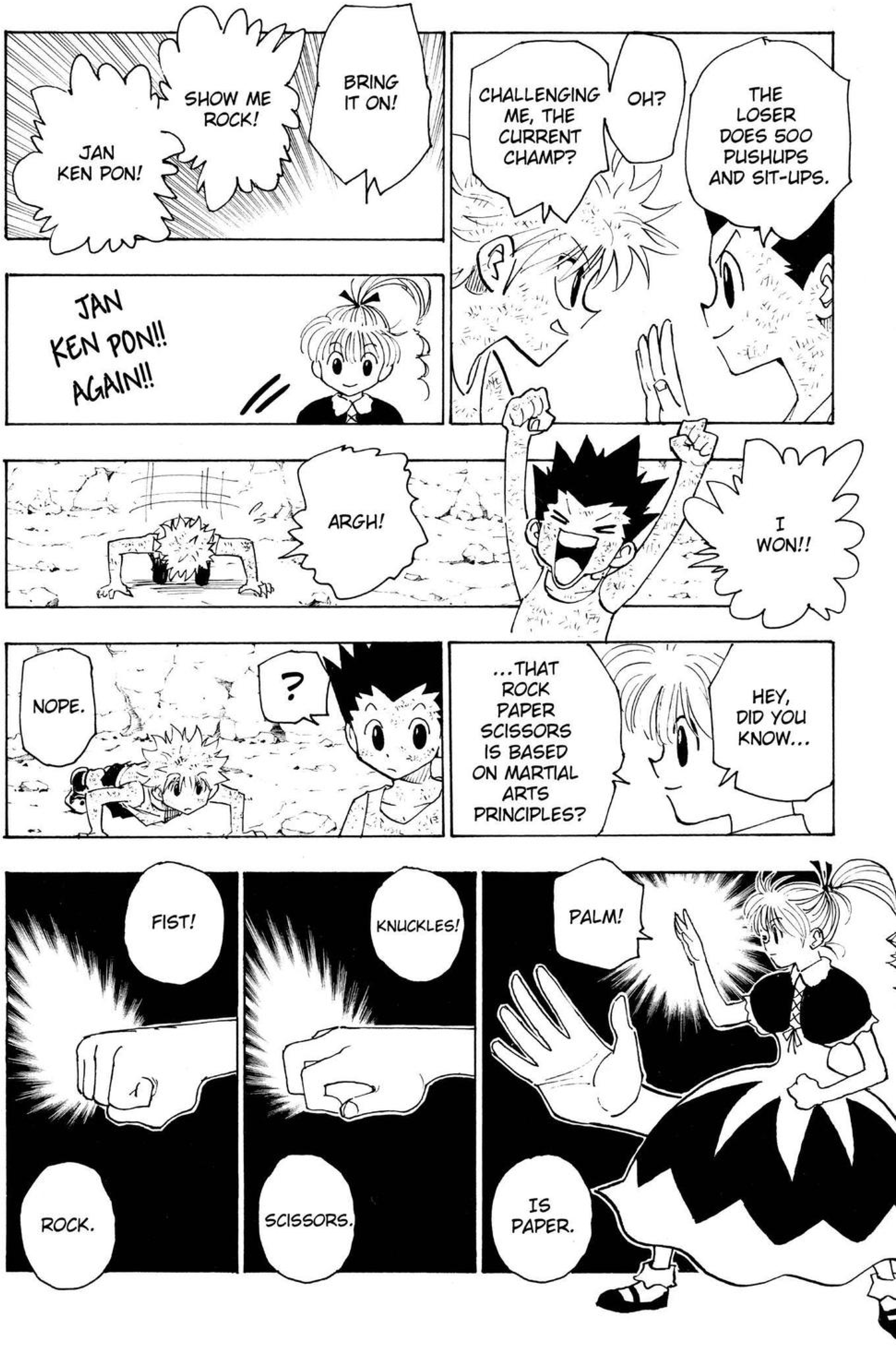

THAT...
...IS GREED ISLAND.
TAP
INTRUDERS...

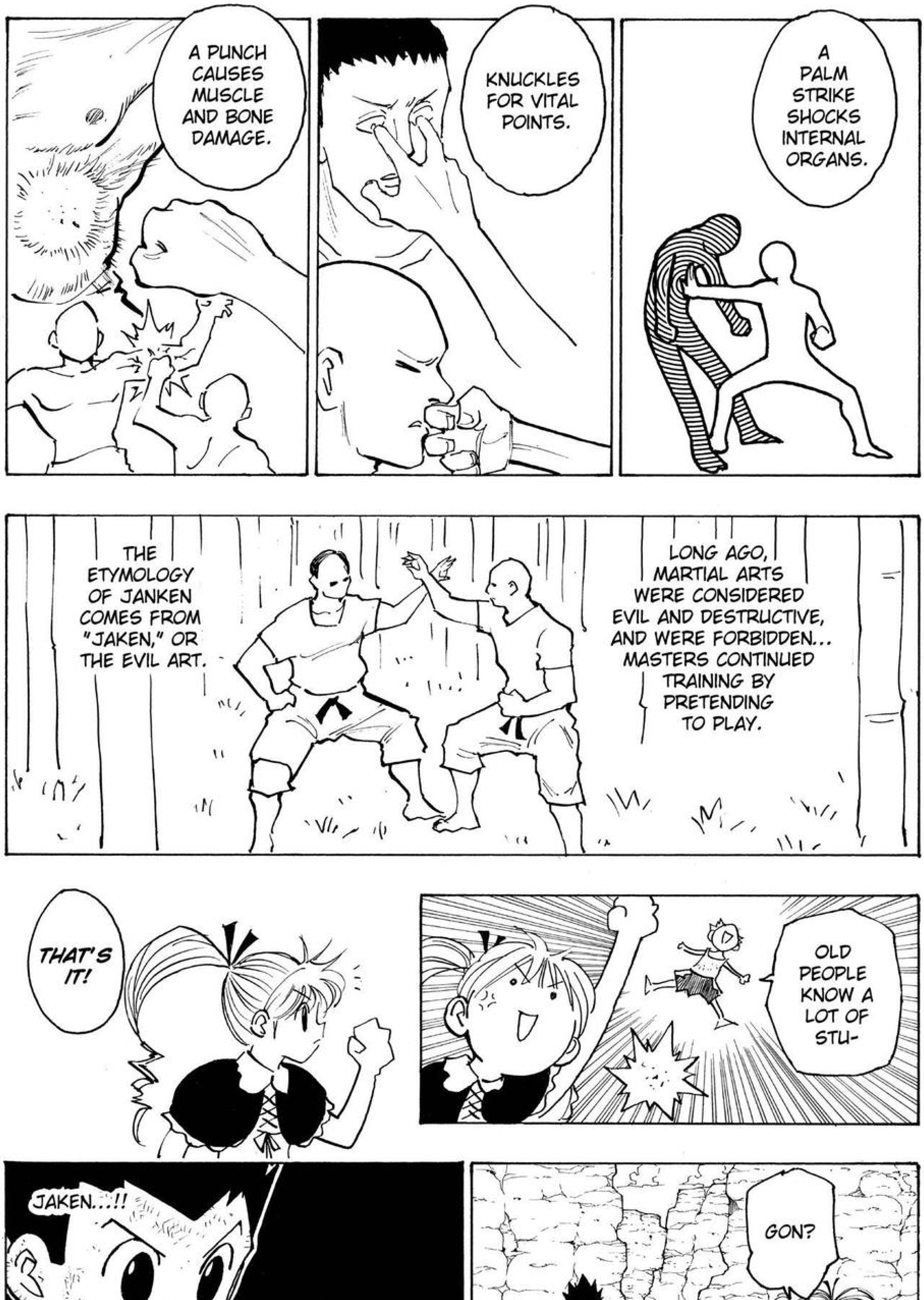
Chapter 145: Janken

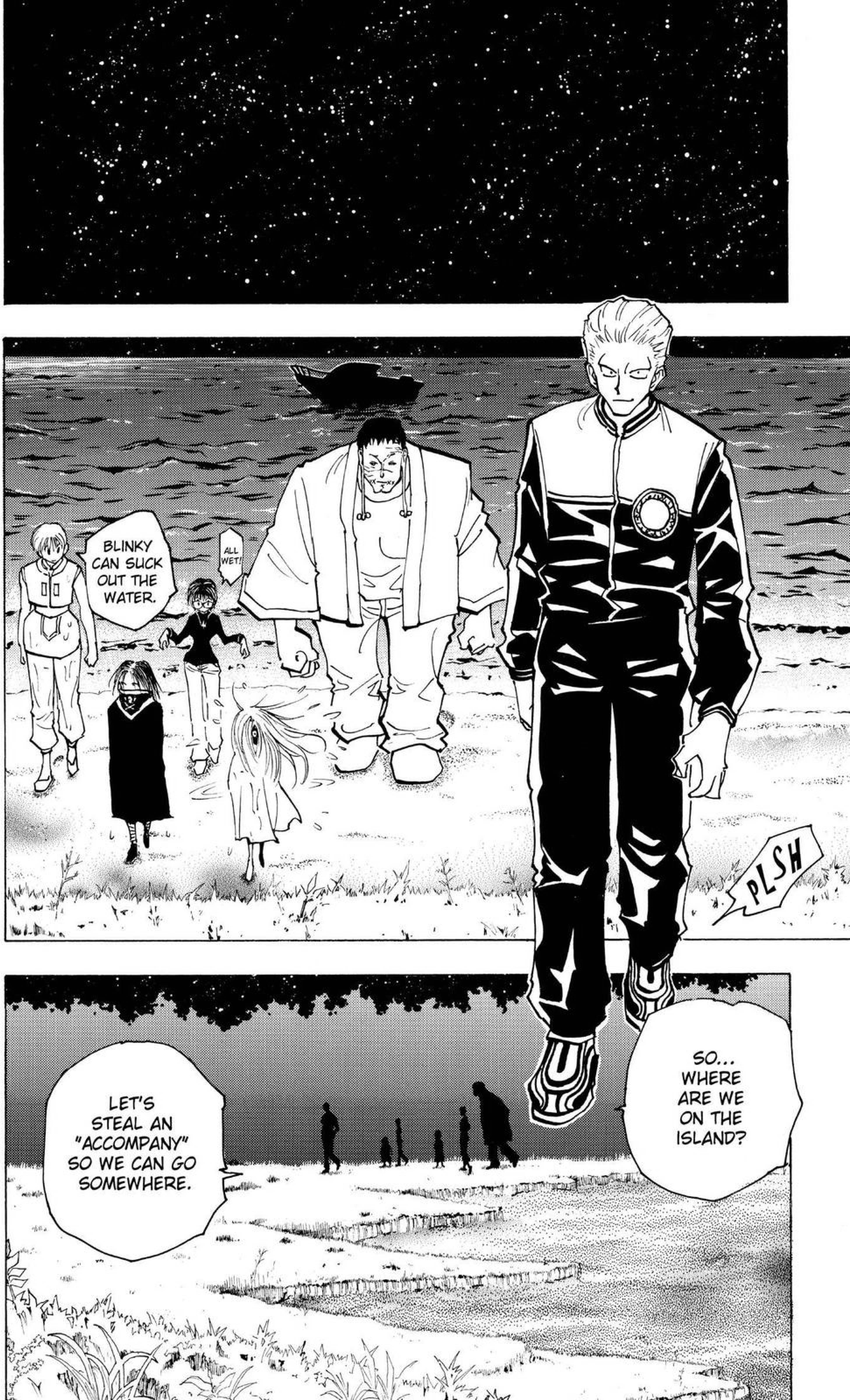

ENHANCEMENT EXERCISE, LEVEL ONE.
BREAKING ROCKS.
WAK!!
BREAK ROCKS WITH ANOTHER ROCK.
YOU PASS WHEN YOU CAN SMASH 1000 ROCKS WITH ONE ROCK IN ONE DAY.
BEGIN!!
ONE!!

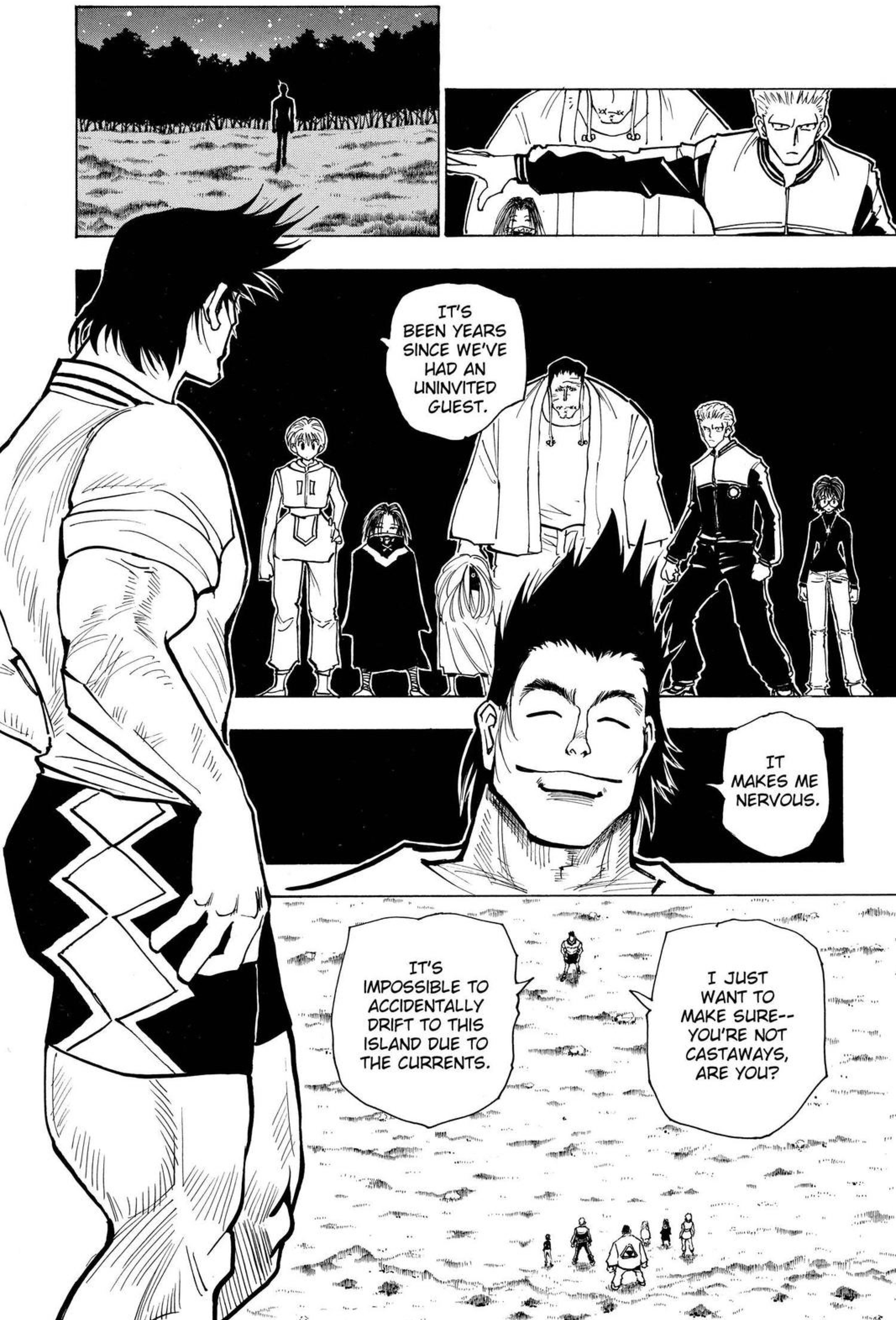

KRAK
OOPS.
IT BROKE.
YOU ONLY GET TO USE ONE ROCK PER DAY.
ONCE IT BREAKS, THAT'S IT!
DRAT.
I GOT UP TO 150.
189!
THIS IS ROUGH... I HAVE TO MAINTAIN SHU AND KO TO ENHANCE THE ROCK'S HARDNESS...
I ONLY HAVE TO MAX THE AURA AROUND THE ROCK AT THE MOMENT OF IMPACT, BUT IT GETS MENTALLY AND PHYSICALLY EXHAUSTING WITH REPETITION...!
I CAN TELL I'M GETTING LESS AND LESS PRECISE.

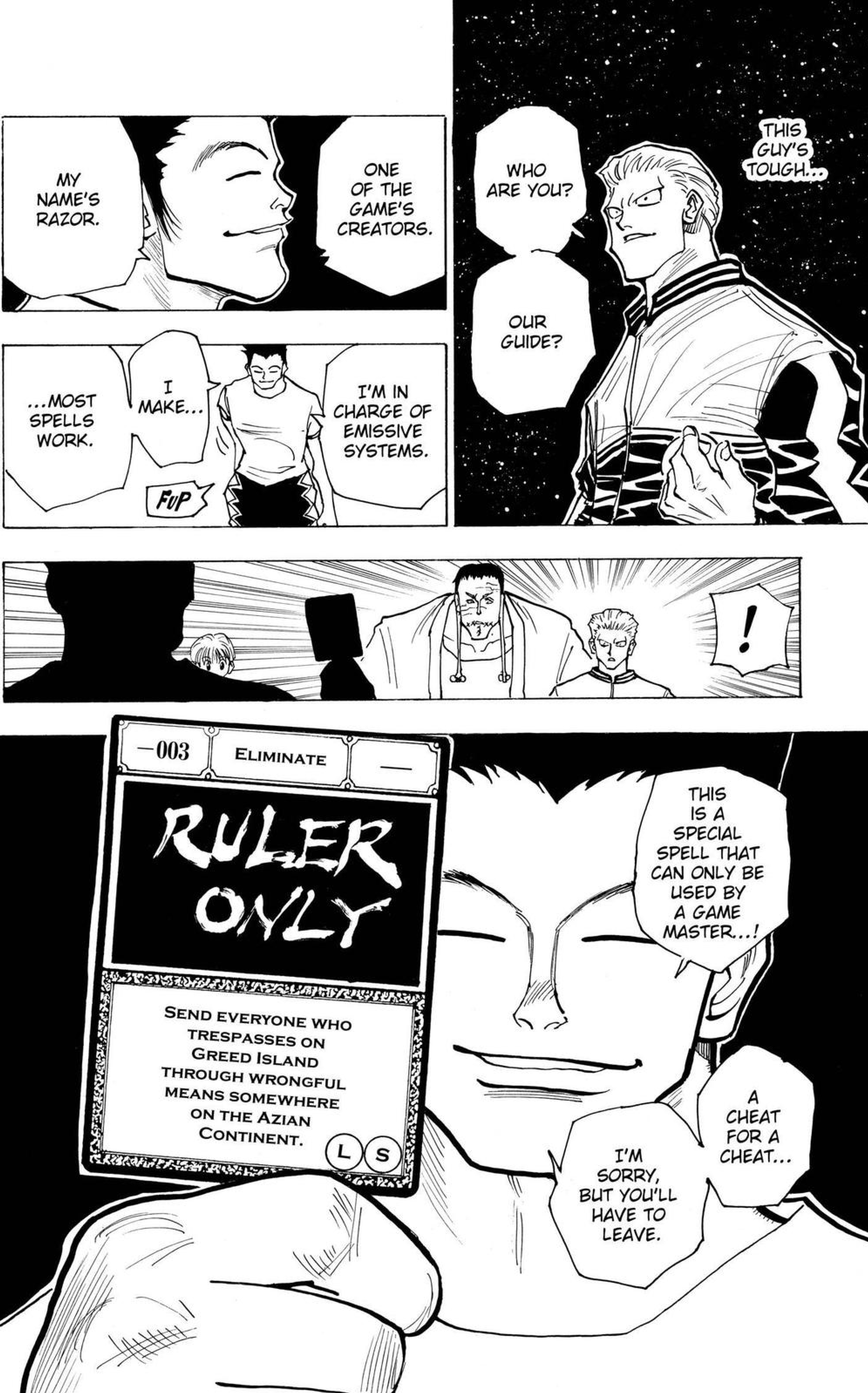

UNH!
KRAK!!
THAT'S IT!
I FAILED!
ARGH!
WHUMP
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
IT USUALLY TAKES WEEKS TO GET OVER 100 ROCKS!
LET'S DO A TRANSMUTER EXERCISE NEXT.
DON'T BE HASTY.
AS A RULE, ONLY WORK ON ONE TYPE A DAY!
THERE WOULD BE NO POINT IF YOU NEGLECTED THE BASICS.
SIX!!
SNAP!!
6
CORRECT!
ANOTHER TIE.
AGAIN?
WE'VE HAD TIES FOR A WHILE.
THAT MEANS GYO HAS BECOME MORE OF A REFLEX.
IT'S BORING.
ROCK PAPER SCISSORS?


THE LOSER DOES 500 PUSHUPS AND SIT-UPS.
OH?
CHALLENGING ME, THE CURRENT CHAMP?
BRING IT ON!
SHOW ME ROCK!
JAN KEN PON!
JAN KEN PON!! AGAIN!!
I WON!!
ARGH!
HEY, DID YOU KNOW...
...THAT ROCK PAPER SCISSORS IS BASED ON MARTIAL ARTS PRINCIPLES?
?
NOPE.
FIST!
ROCK.
KNUCKLES!
SCISSORS.
PALM!
IS PAPER.

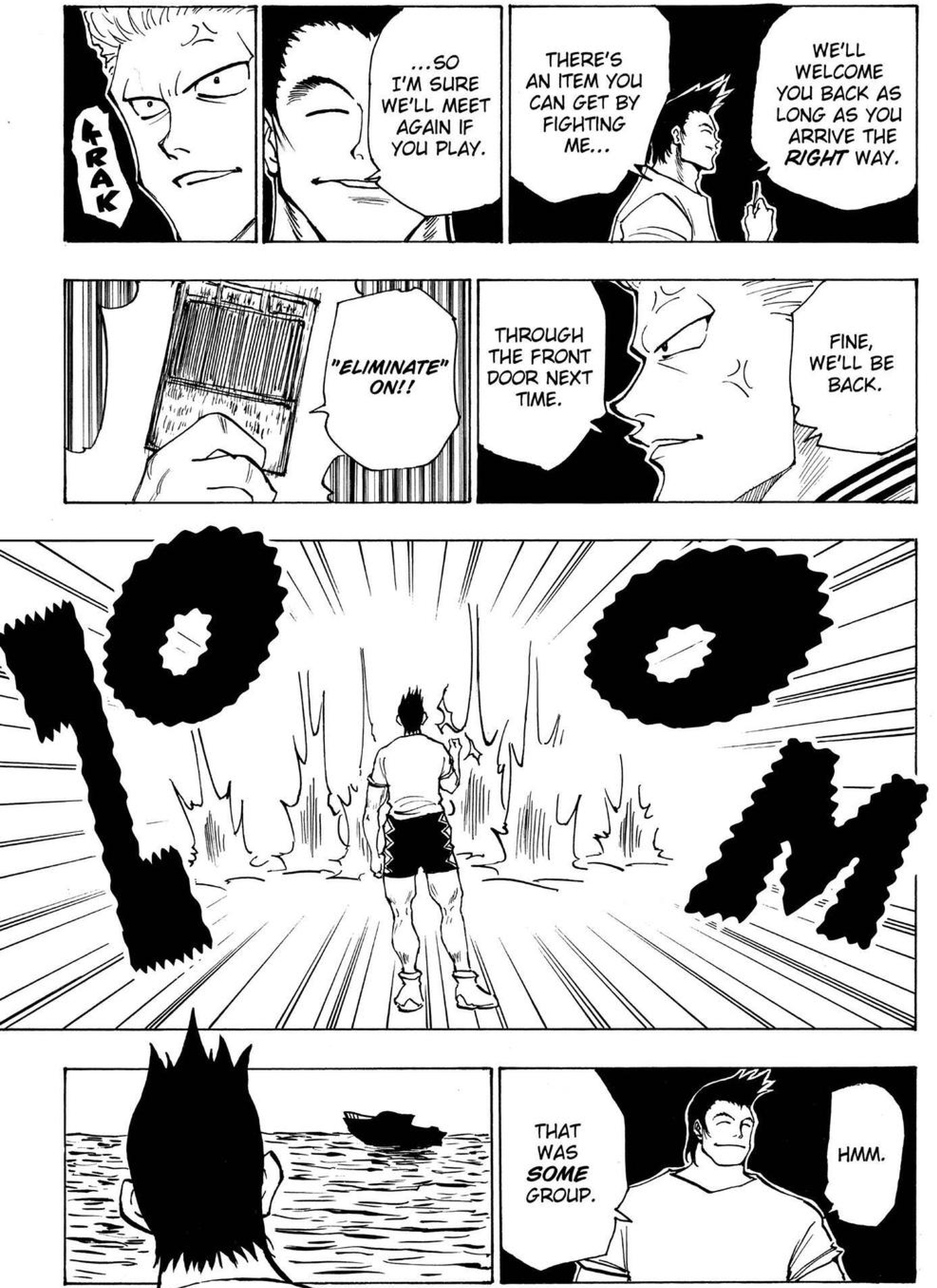

A PUNCH CAUSES MUSCLE AND BONE DAMAGE.
KNUCKLES FOR VITAL POINTS.
A PALM STRIKE SHOCKS INTERNAL ORGANS.
THE ETYMOLOGY OF JANKEN COMES FROM "JAKEN," OR THE EVIL ART.
LONG AGO, MARTIAL ARTS WERE CONSIDERED EVIL AND DESTRUCTIVE, AND WERE FORBIDDEN... MASTERS CONTINUED TRAINING BY PRETENDING TO PLAY.
THAT'S IT!
OLD PEOPLE KNOW A LOT OF STU-
JAKEN...!!
GON?

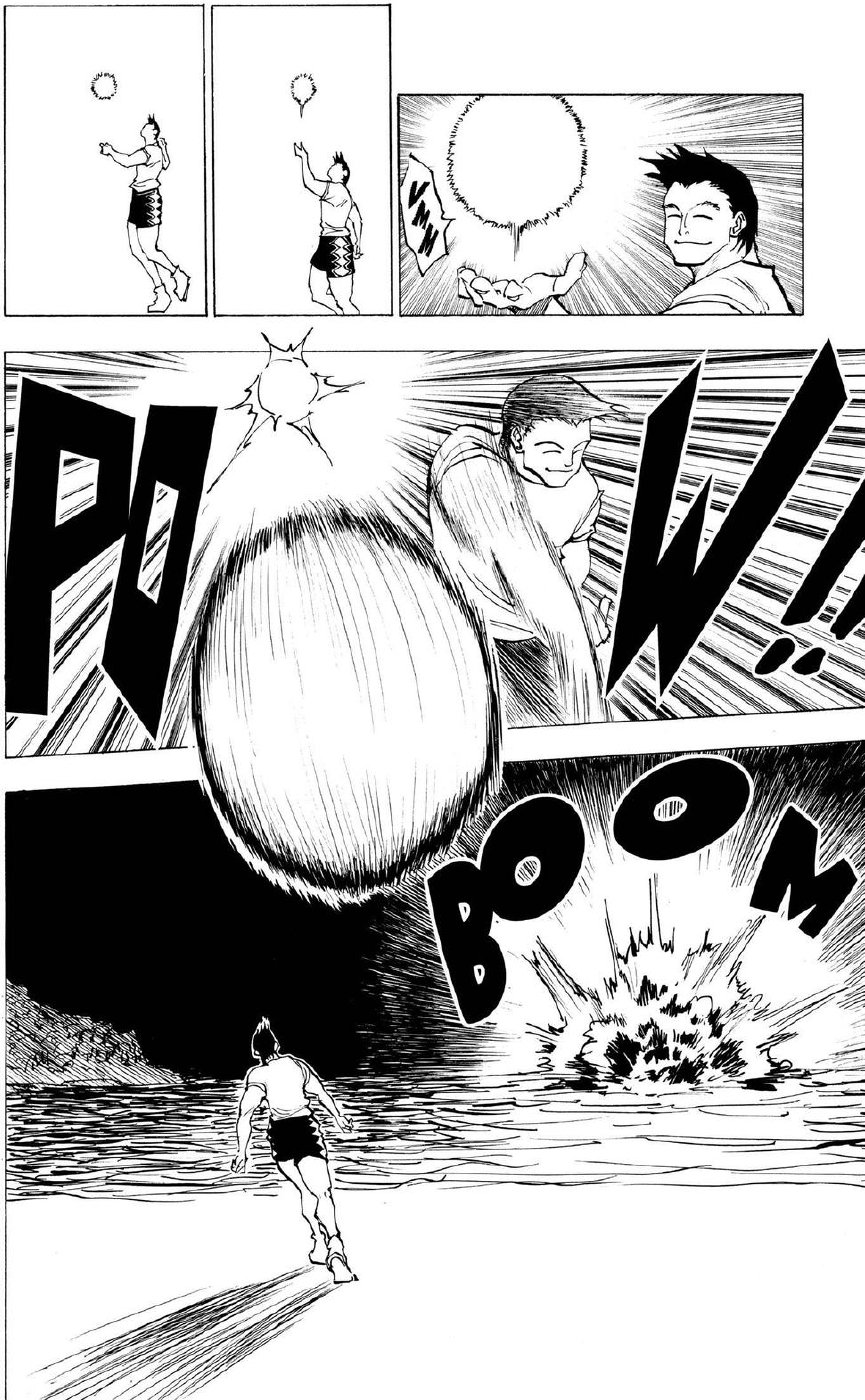

ALL WET!
BLINKY CAN SUCK OUT THE WATER.
PLSH
SO... WHERE ARE WE ON THE ISLAND?
LET'S STEAL AN "ACCOMPANY" SO WE CAN GO SOMEWHERE.


IT'S BEEN YEARS SINCE WE'VE HAD AN UNINVITED GUEST.
IT MAKES ME NERVOUS.
I JUST WANT TO MAKE SURE-- YOU'RE NOT CASTAWAYS, ARE YOU?
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO ACCIDENTALLY DRIFT TO THIS ISLAND DUE TO THE CURRENTS.

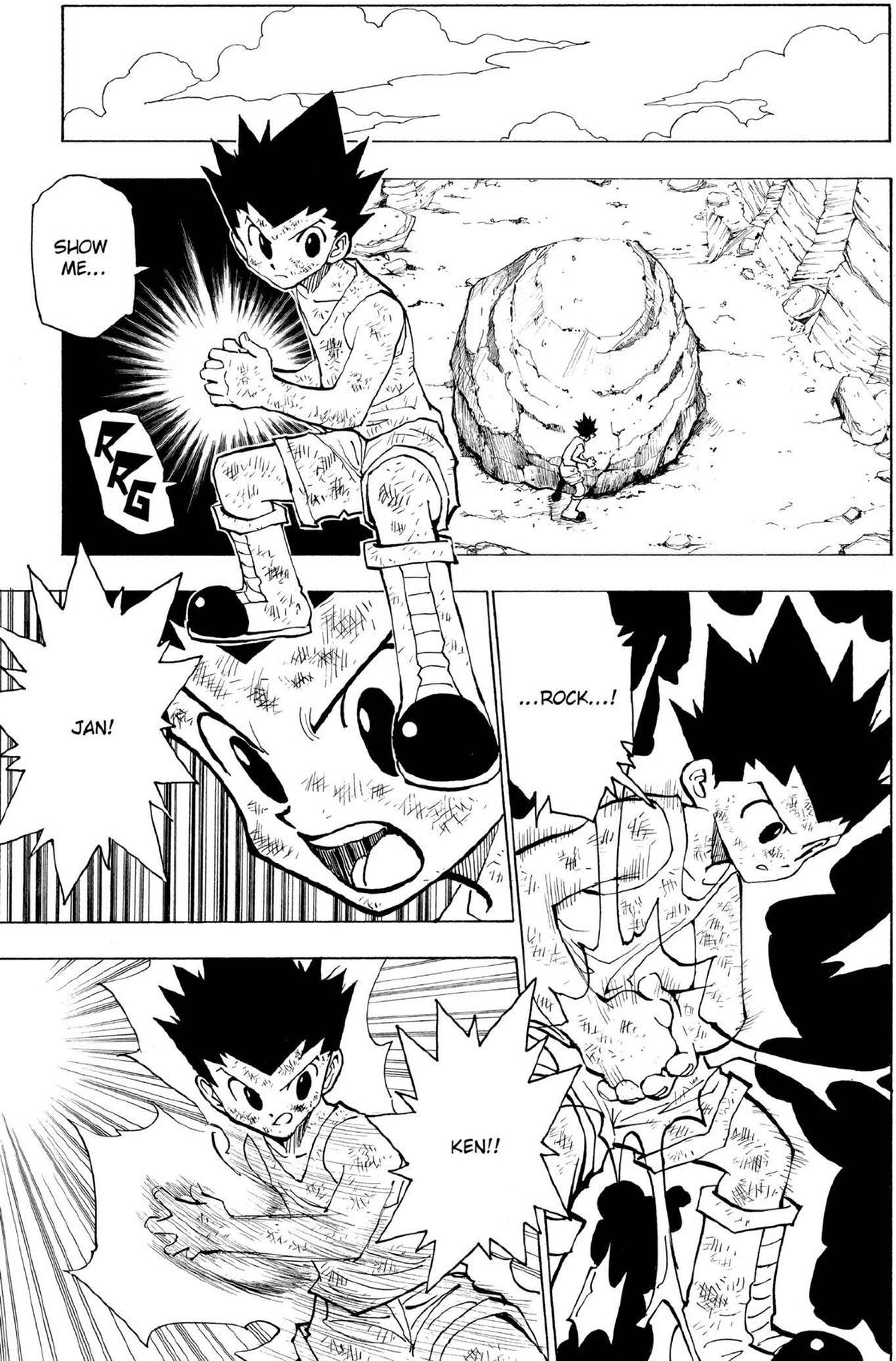

THIS GUY'S TOUGH...
WHO ARE YOU?
OUR GUIDE?
ONE OF THE GAME'S CREATORS.
MY NAME'S RAZOR.
I'M IN CHARGE OF EMISSIVE SYSTEMS.
I MAKE...
...MOST SPELLS WORK.
FUP
!
—003
ELIMINATE
—
RULER ONLY
SEND EVERYONE WHO TRESPASSES ON GREED ISLAND THROUGH WRONGFUL MEANS SOMEWHERE ON THE AZIAN CONTINENT.
L
S
THIS IS A SPECIAL SPELL THAT CAN ONLY BE USED BY A GAME MASTER...!
A CHEAT FOR A CHEAT...
I'M SORRY, BUT YOU'LL HAVE TO LEAVE.

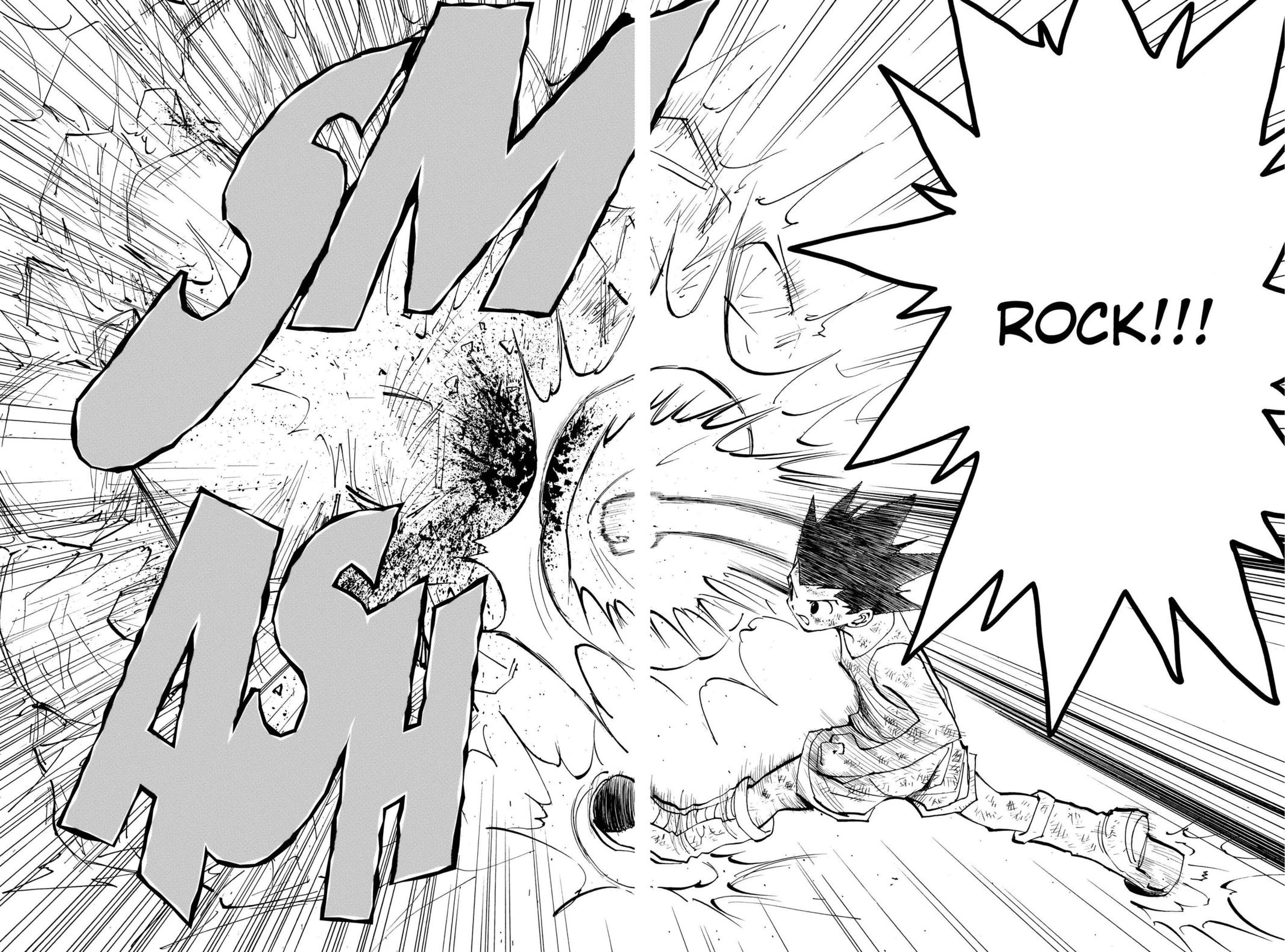
READ THIS WAY

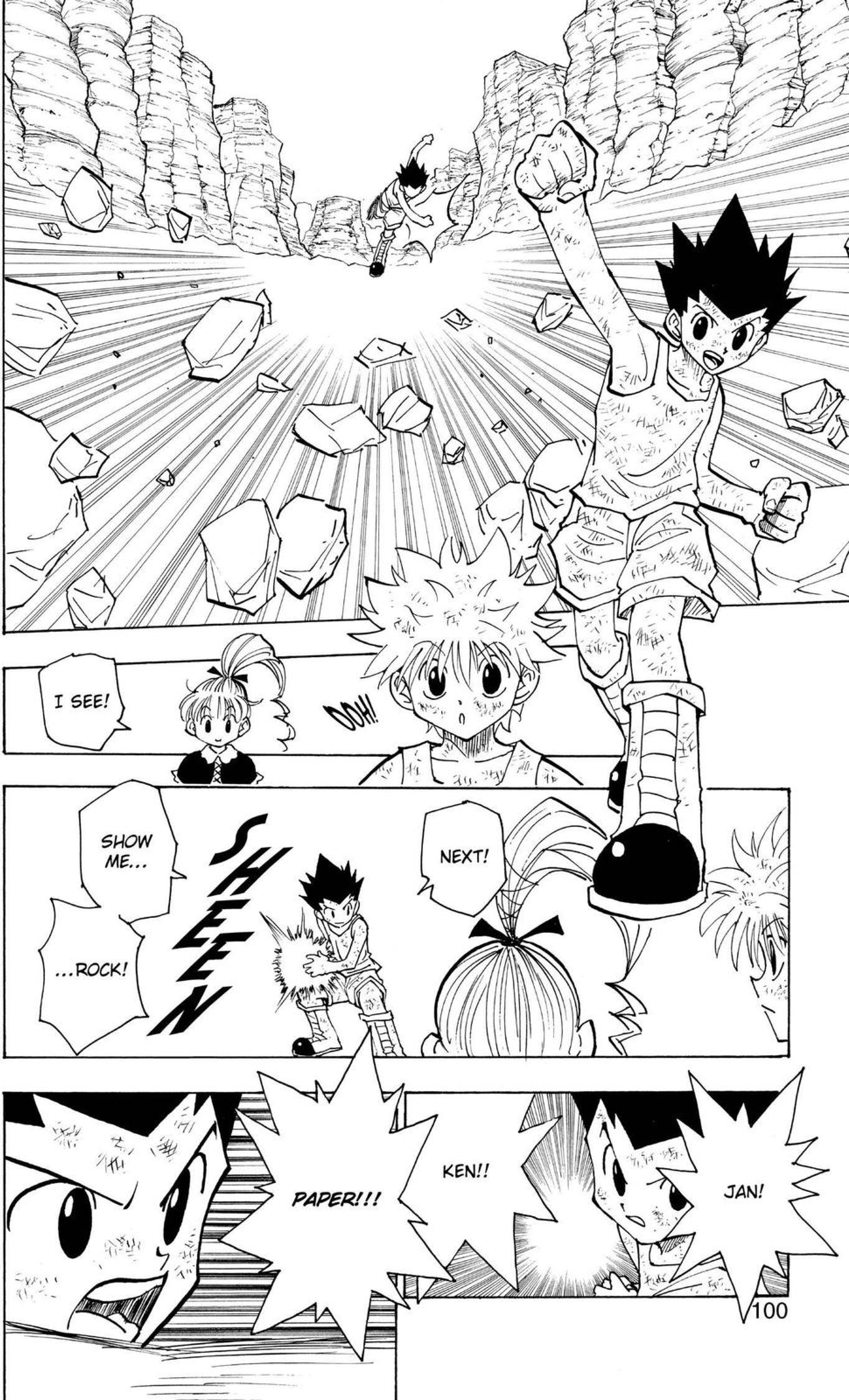

WE'LL WELCOME YOU BACK AS LONG AS YOU ARRIVE THE ***RIGHT*** WAY.
THERE'S AN ITEM YOU CAN GET BY FIGHTING ME...
...SO I'M SURE WE'LL MEET AGAIN IF YOU PLAY.
KRAK
FINE, WE'LL BE BACK.
THROUGH THE FRONT DOOR NEXT TIME.
"ELIMINATE" ON!!
BOOM
HMM.
THAT WAS ***SOME*** GROUP.

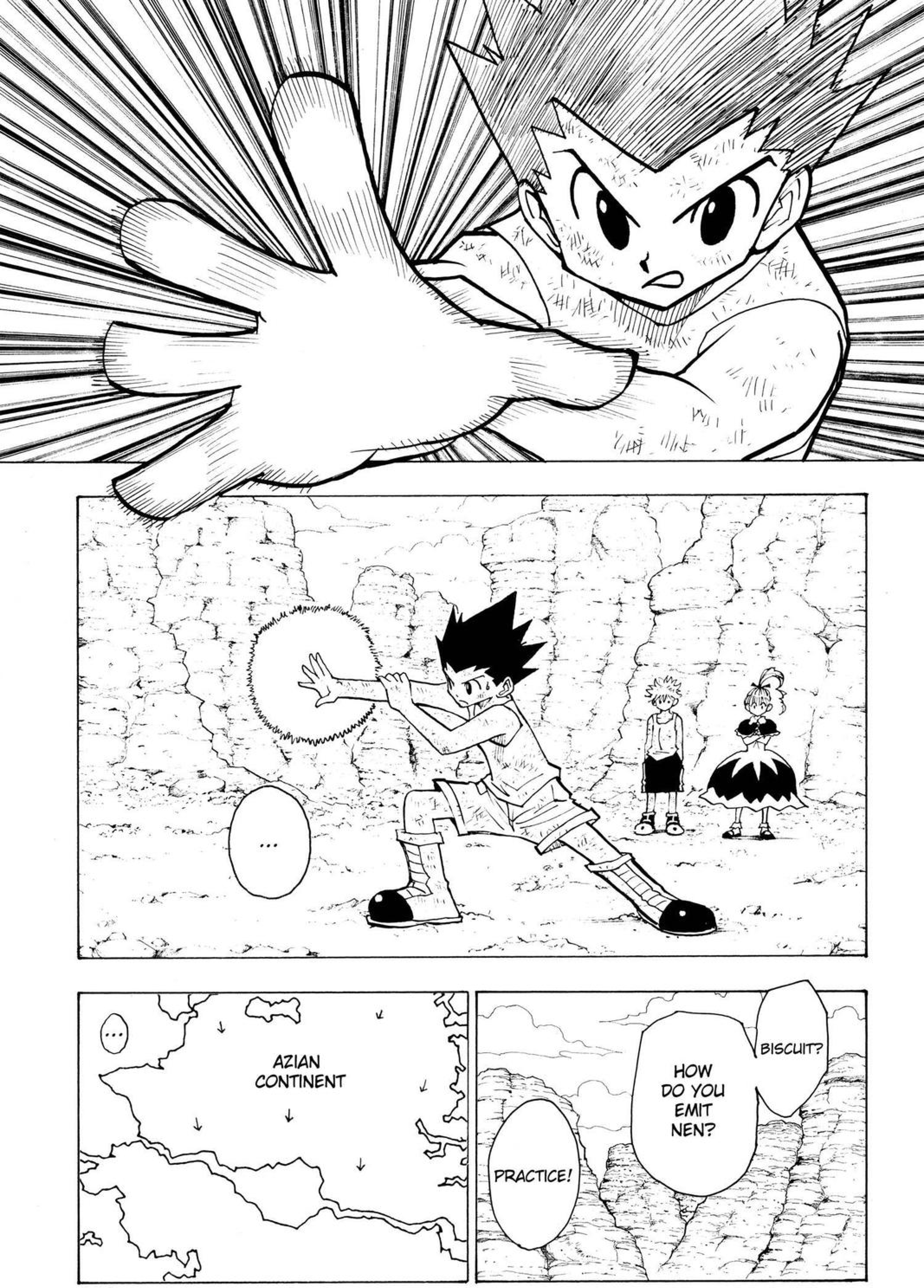

VMM
POW!!
BOOM

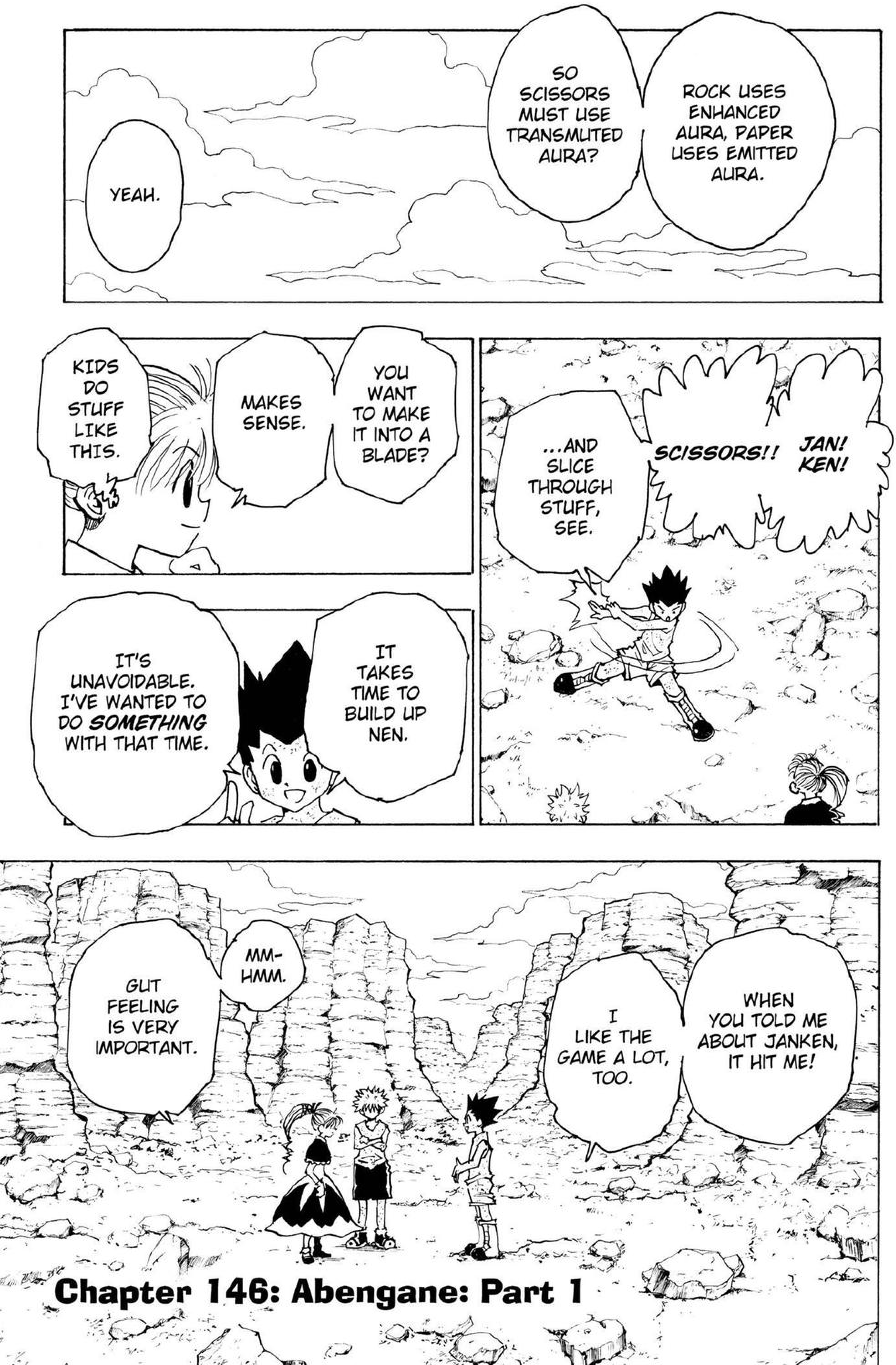
READ THIS WAY


SHOW ME...
RRG
...ROCK...!
JAN!
KEN!!

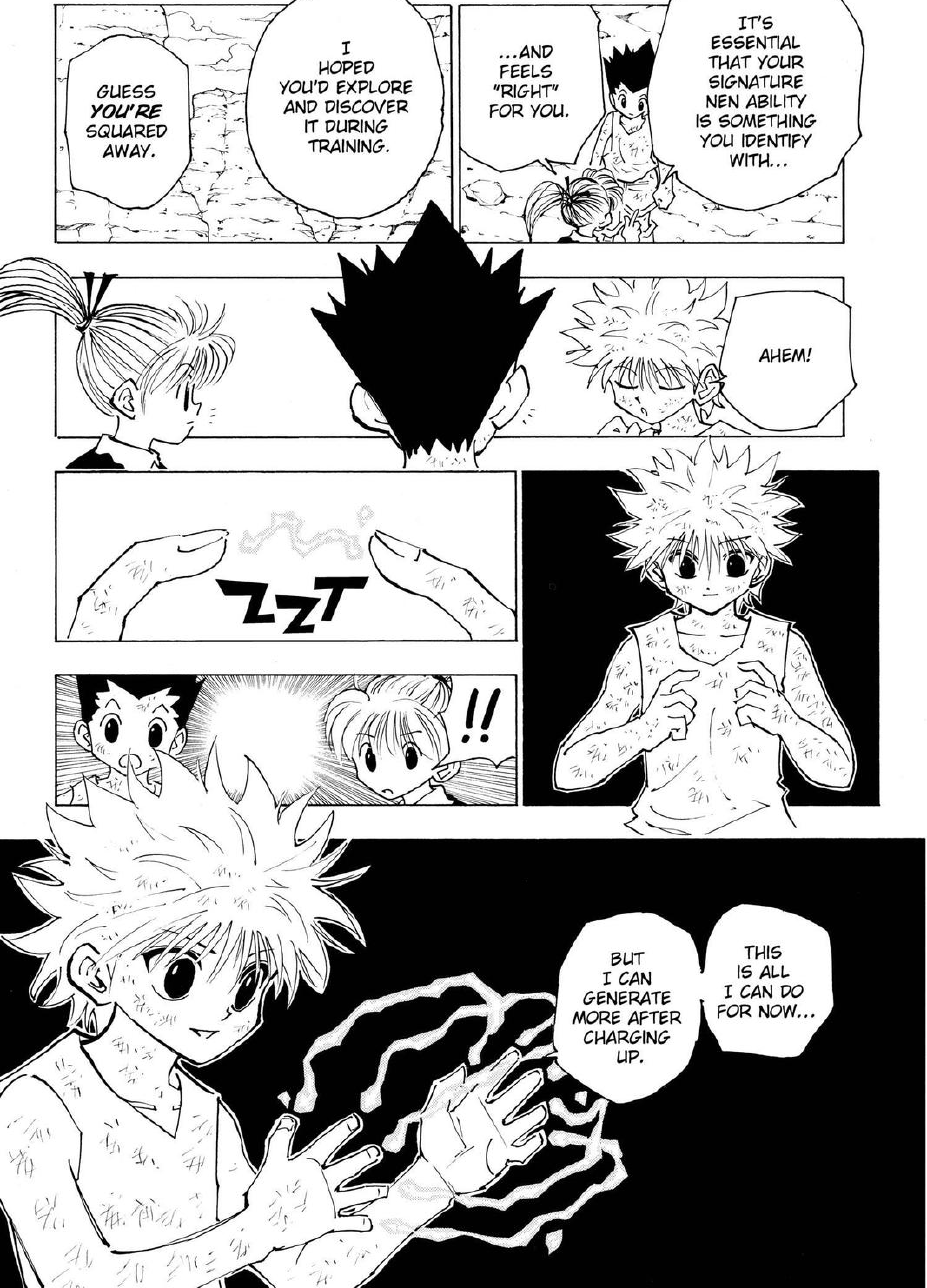

ROCK!!!
SMASH

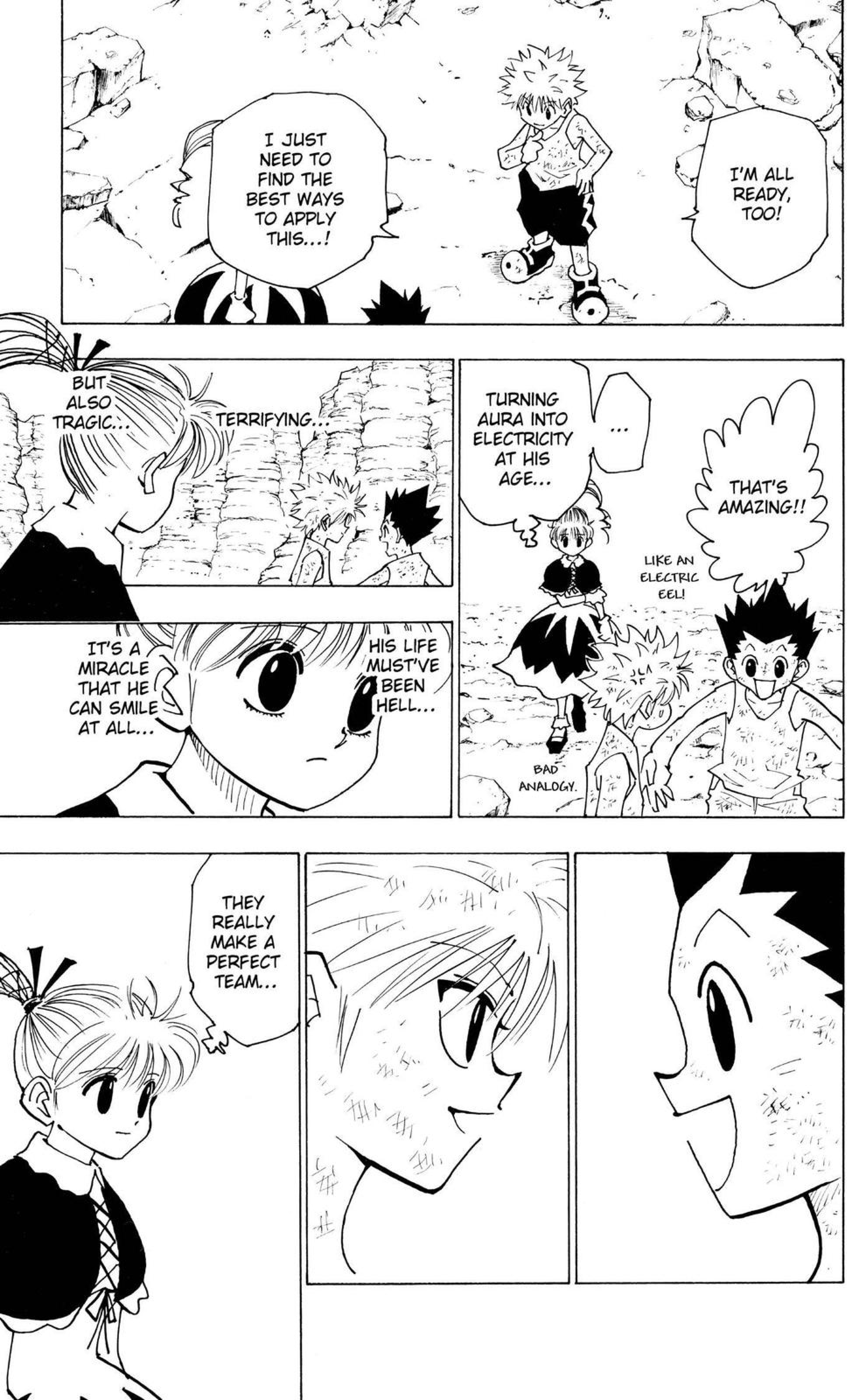

OOH!
I SEE!
NEXT!
SHOW ME...
...ROCK!
SHEEEN
JAN!
KEN!!
PAPER!!!

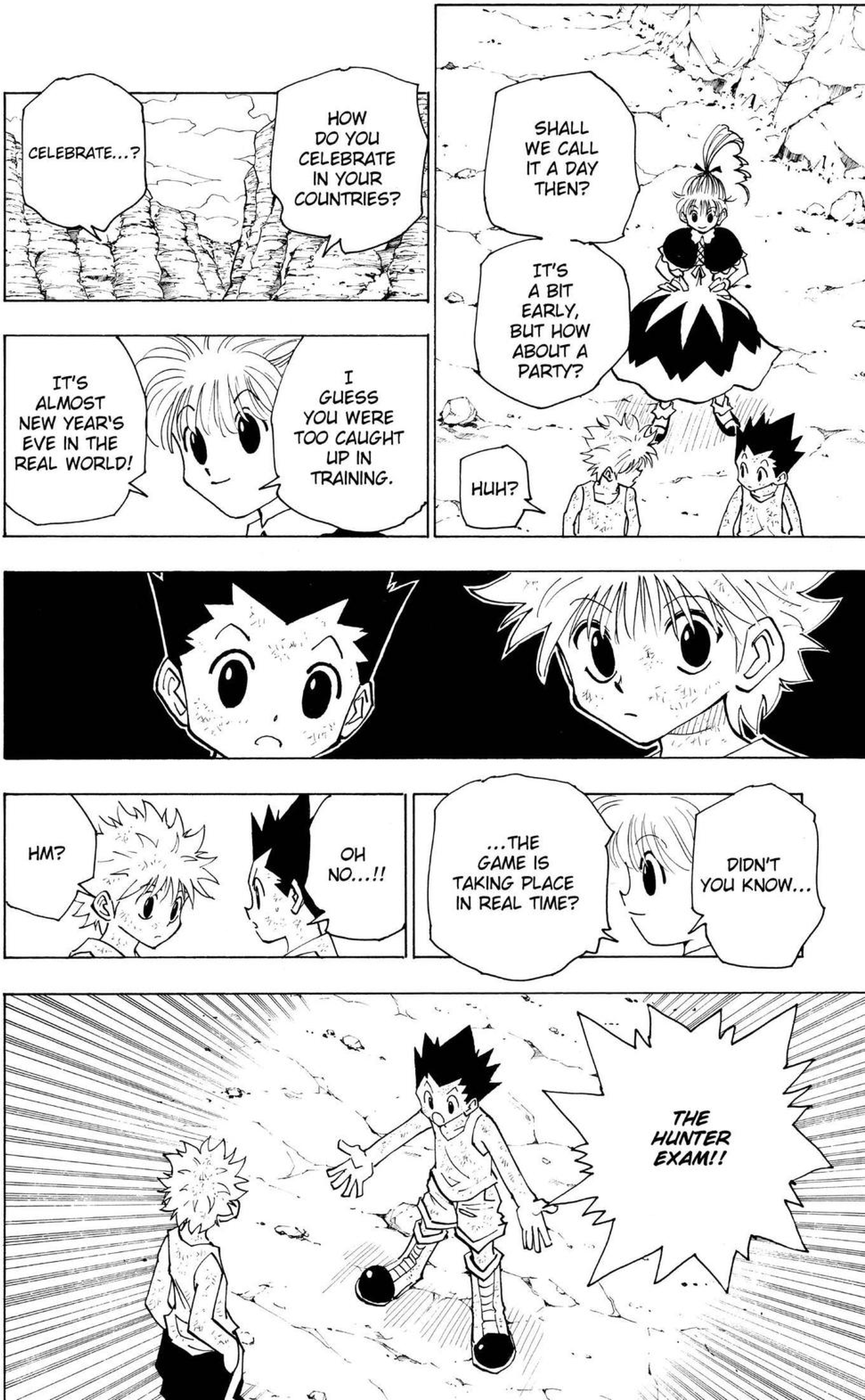

...
BISCUIT?
HOW DO YOU EMIT NEN?
PRACTICE!
...
AZIAN CONTINENT

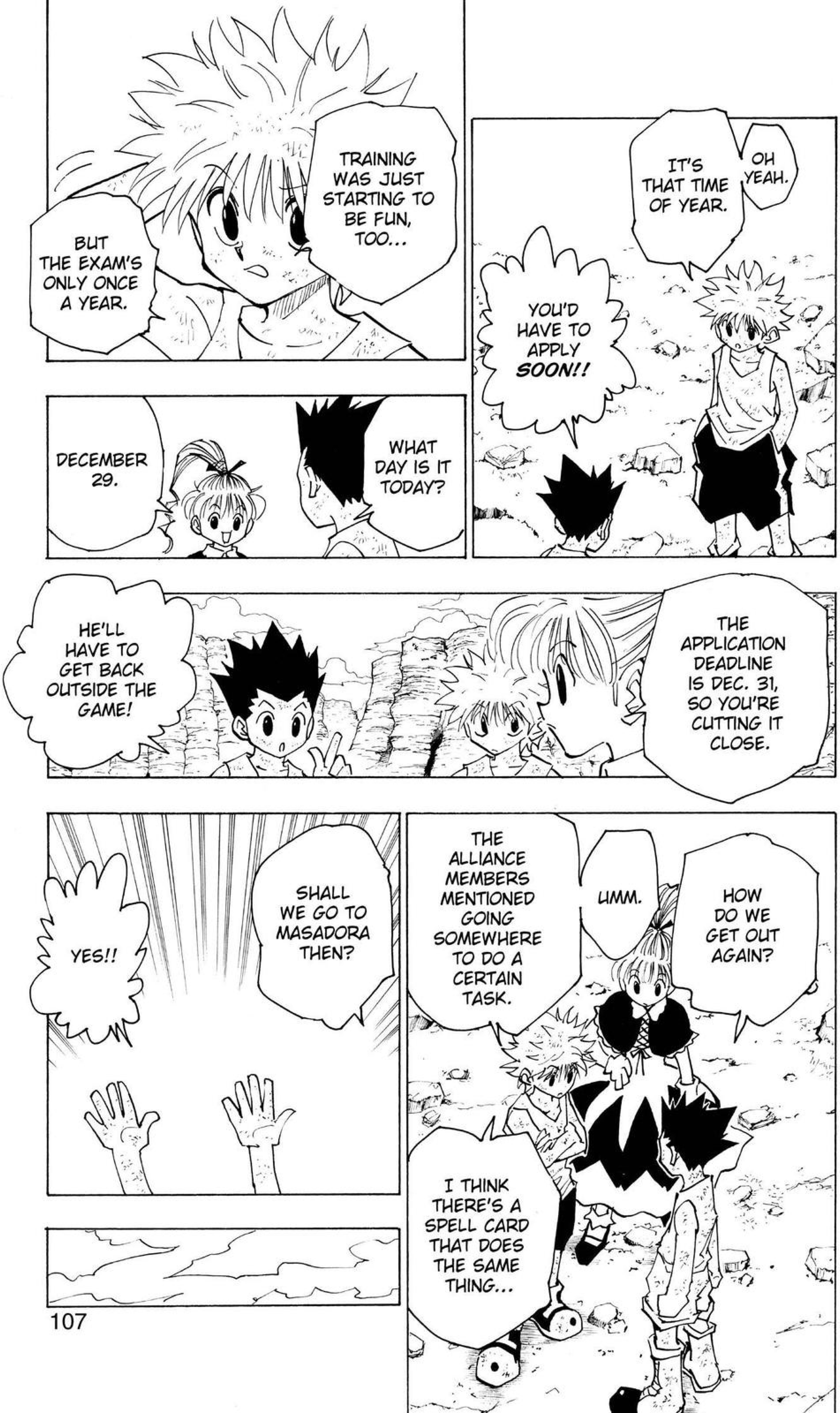

ROCK USES ENHANCED AURA, PAPER USES EMITTED AURA.
SO SCISSORS MUST USE TRANSMUTED AURA?
YEAH.
JAN! KEN!
SCISSORS!!
...AND SLICE THROUGH STUFF, SEE.
YOU WANT TO MAKE IT INTO A BLADE?
MAKES SENSE.
KIDS DO STUFF LIKE THIS.
IT TAKES TIME TO BUILD UP NEN.
IT'S UNAVOIDABLE. I'VE WANTED TO DO *SOMETHING* WITH THAT TIME.
WHEN YOU TOLD ME ABOUT JANKEN, IT HIT ME!
I LIKE THE GAME A LOT, TOO.
MM-HMM.
GUT FEELING IS VERY IMPORTANT.

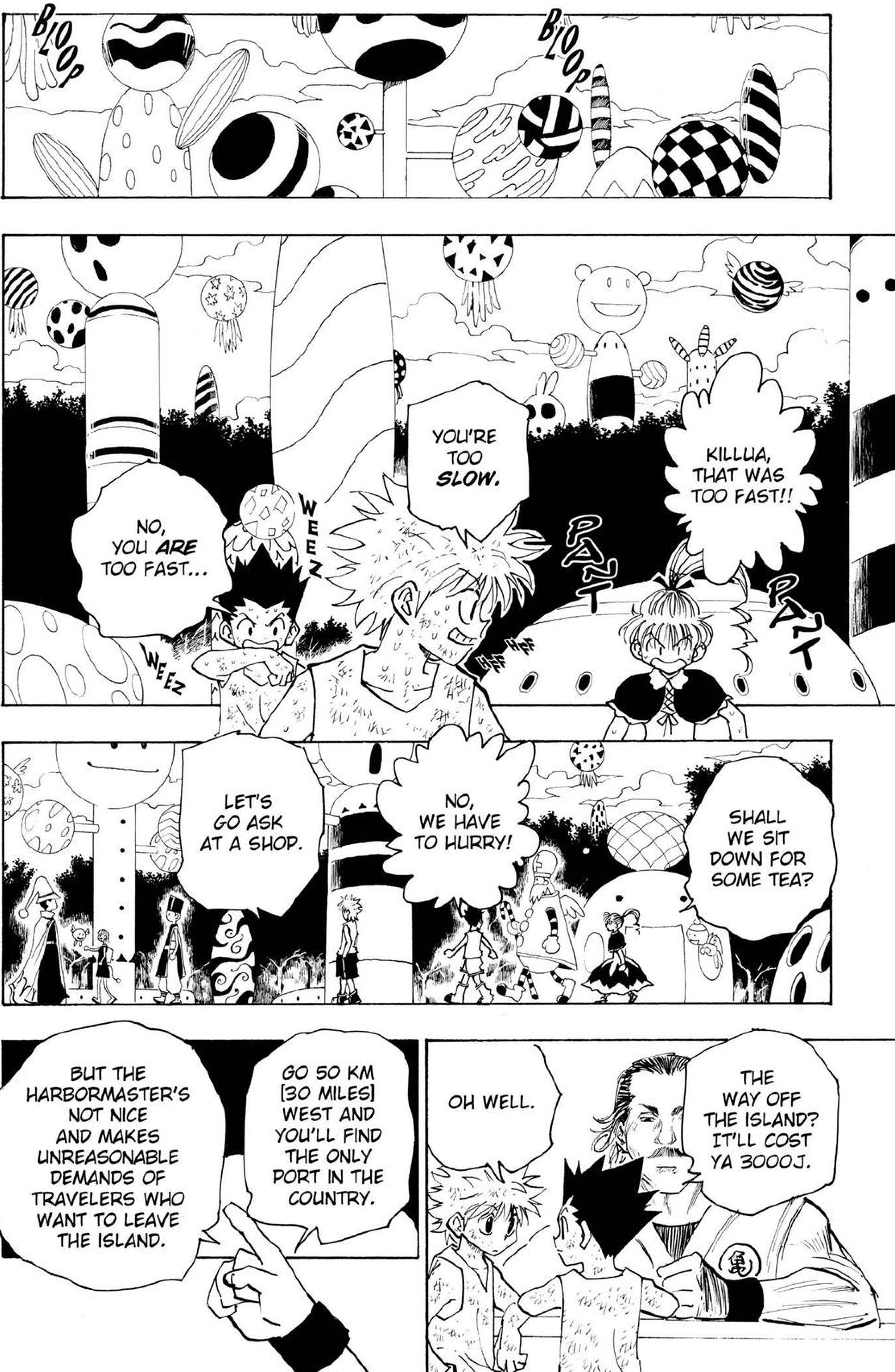
Chapter 146: Abengane: Part 1

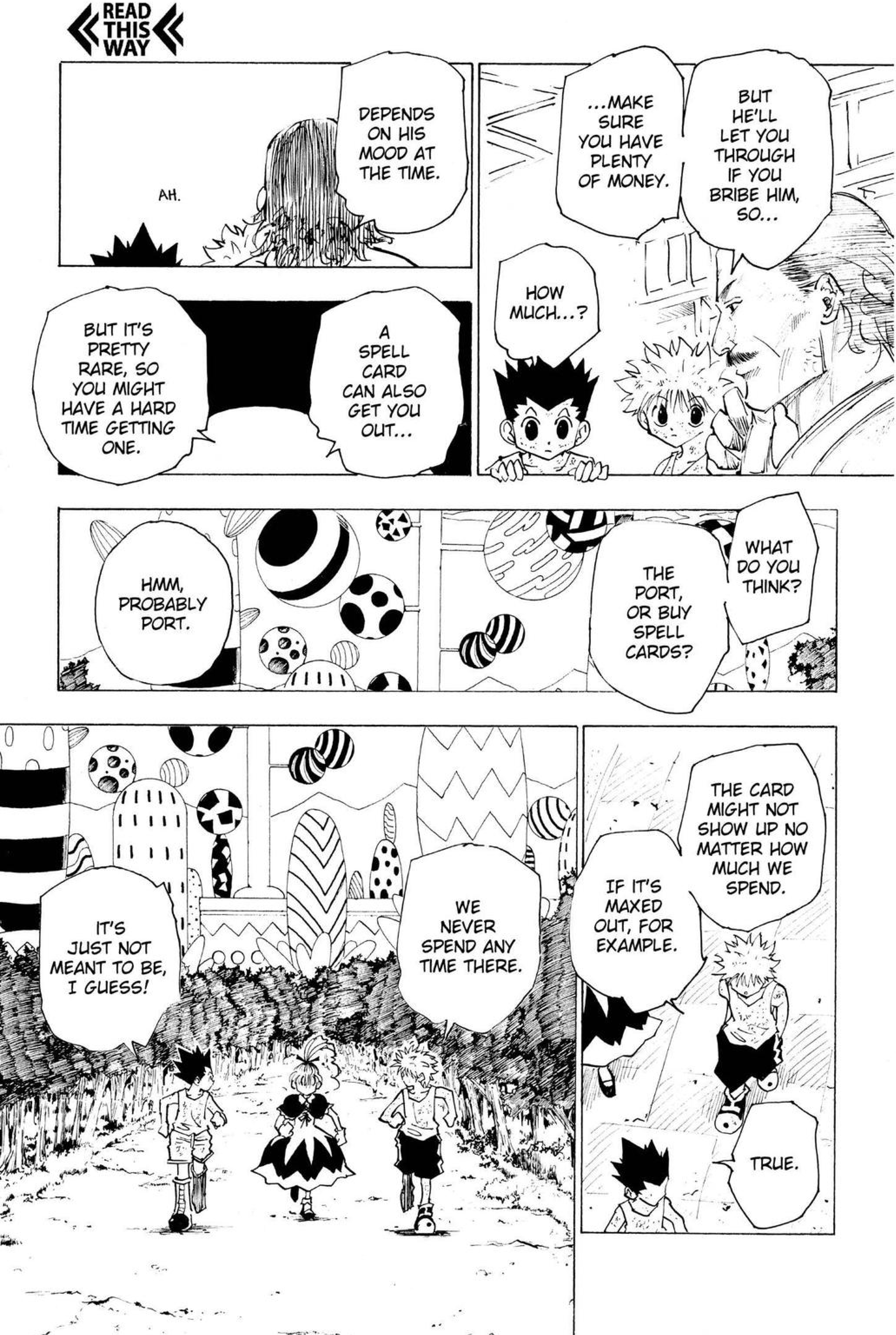

IT'S ESSENTIAL THAT YOUR SIGNATURE NEN ABILITY IS SOMETHING YOU IDENTIFY WITH...
...AND FEELS "RIGHT" FOR YOU.
I HOPED YOU'D EXPLORE AND DISCOVER IT DURING TRAINING.
GUESS ***YOU'RE*** SQUARED AWAY.
AHEM!
ZZZT
!!
THIS IS ALL I CAN DO FOR NOW...
BUT I CAN GENERATE MORE AFTER CHARGING UP.

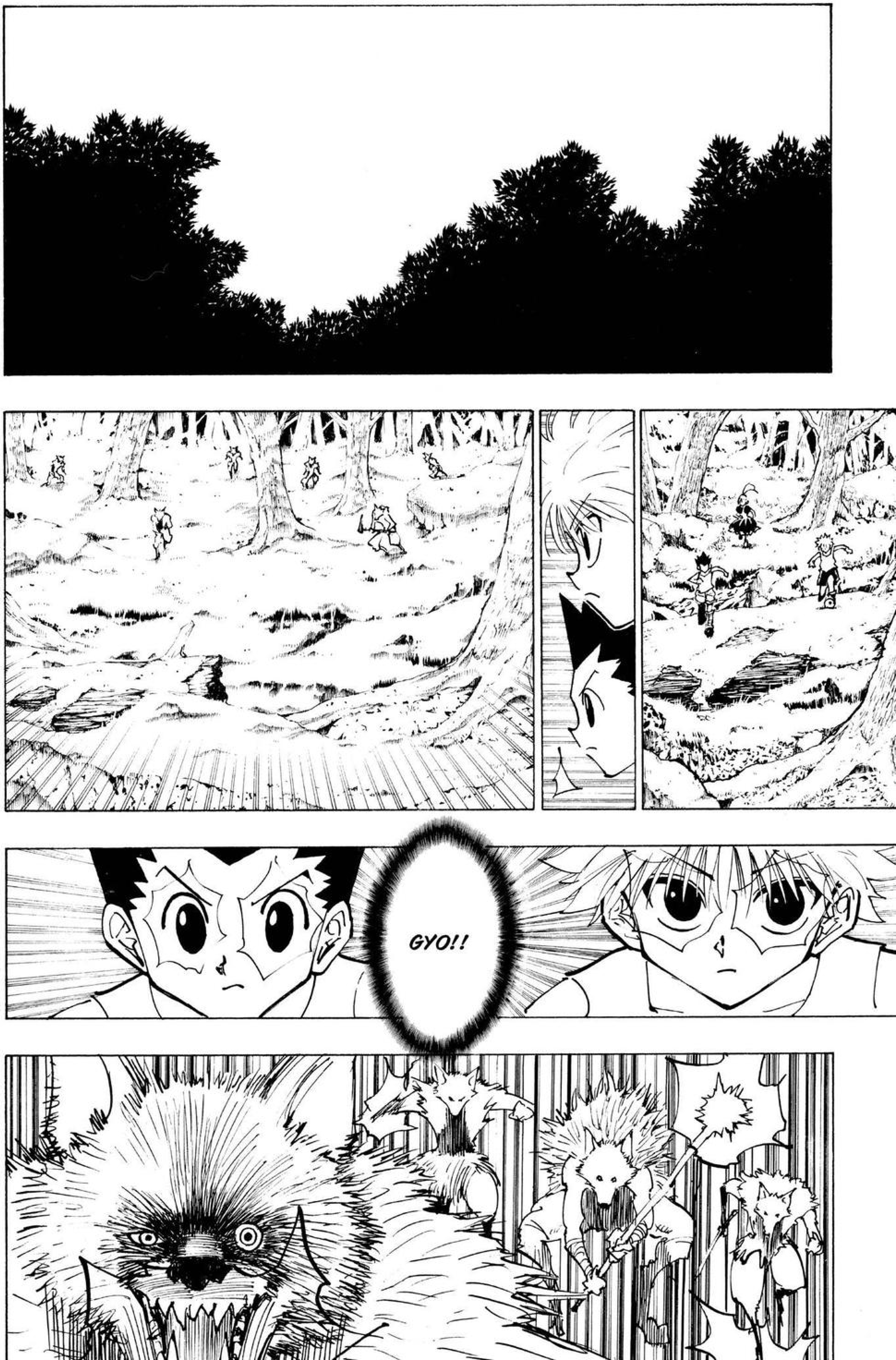

I'M ALL READY, TOO!
I JUST NEED TO FIND THE BEST WAYS TO APPLY THIS...!
TURNING AURA INTO ELECTRICITY AT HIS AGE...
...
THAT'S AMAZING!!
LIKE AN ELECTRIC EEL!
BAD ANALOGY.
TERRIFYING...
BUT ALSO TRAGIC...
HIS LIFE MUST'VE BEEN HELL...
IT'S A MIRACLE THAT HE CAN SMILE AT ALL...
THEY REALLY MAKE A PERFECT TEAM...

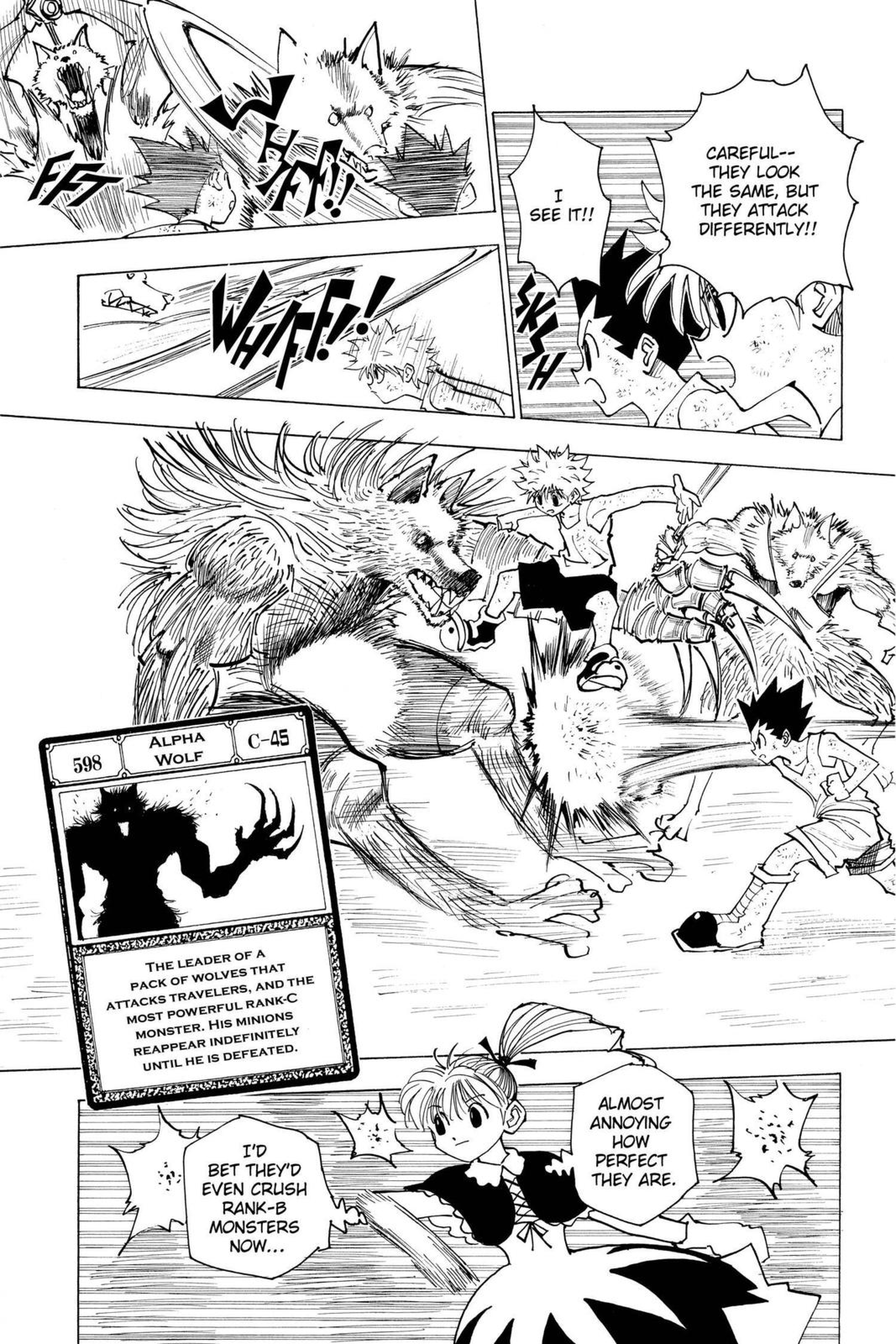

SHALL WE CALL IT A DAY THEN?
IT'S A BIT EARLY, BUT HOW ABOUT A PARTY?
HUH?
HOW DO YOU CELEBRATE IN YOUR COUNTRIES?
CELEBRATE...?
I GUESS YOU WERE TOO CAUGHT UP IN TRAINING.
IT'S ALMOST NEW YEAR'S EVE IN THE REAL WORLD!
DIDN'T YOU KNOW...
...THE GAME IS TAKING PLACE IN REAL TIME?
OH NO...!!
HM?
THE HUNTER EXAM!!


OH YEAH.
IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR.
YOU'D HAVE TO APPLY ***SOON!!***
TRAINING WAS JUST STARTING TO BE FUN, TOO...
BUT THE EXAM'S ONLY ONCE A YEAR.
WHAT DAY IS IT TODAY?
DECEMBER 29.
THE APPLICATION DEADLINE IS DEC. 31, SO YOU'RE CUTTING IT CLOSE.
HE'LL HAVE TO GET BACK OUTSIDE THE GAME!
HOW DO WE GET OUT AGAIN?
UMM.
THE ALLIANCE MEMBERS MENTIONED GOING SOMEWHERE TO DO A CERTAIN TASK.
I THINK THERE'S A SPELL CARD THAT DOES THE SAME THING...
SHALL WE GO TO MASADORA THEN?
YES!!


BLOOP
BLOOP
KILLUA, THAT WAS TOO FAST!!
PANT
PANT
YOU'RE TOO ***SLOW.***
HFF HFF
NO, YOU ***ARE*** TOO FAST...
WEEZ
WEEZ
SHALL WE SIT DOWN FOR SOME TEA?
NO, WE HAVE TO HURRY!
LET'S GO ASK AT A SHOP.
THE WAY OFF THE ISLAND? IT'LL COST YA 3000J.
OH WELL.
GO 50 KM [30 MILES] WEST AND YOU'LL FIND THE ONLY PORT IN THE COUNTRY.
BUT THE HARBORMASTER'S NOT NICE AND MAKES UNREASONABLE DEMANDS OF TRAVELERS WHO WANT TO LEAVE THE ISLAND.


READ THIS WAY
BUT HE'LL LET YOU THROUGH IF YOU BRIBE HIM, SO…
…MAKE SURE YOU HAVE PLENTY OF MONEY.
HOW MUCH…?
DEPENDS ON HIS MOOD AT THE TIME.
AH.
A SPELL CARD CAN ALSO GET YOU OUT…
BUT IT'S PRETTY RARE, SO YOU MIGHT HAVE A HARD TIME GETTING ONE.
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
THE PORT, OR BUY SPELL CARDS?
HMM, PROBABLY PORT.
THE CARD MIGHT NOT SHOW UP NO MATTER HOW MUCH WE SPEND.
IF IT'S MAXED OUT, FOR EXAMPLE.
TRUE.
WE NEVER SPEND ANY TIME THERE.
IT'S JUST NOT MEANT TO BE, I GUESS!

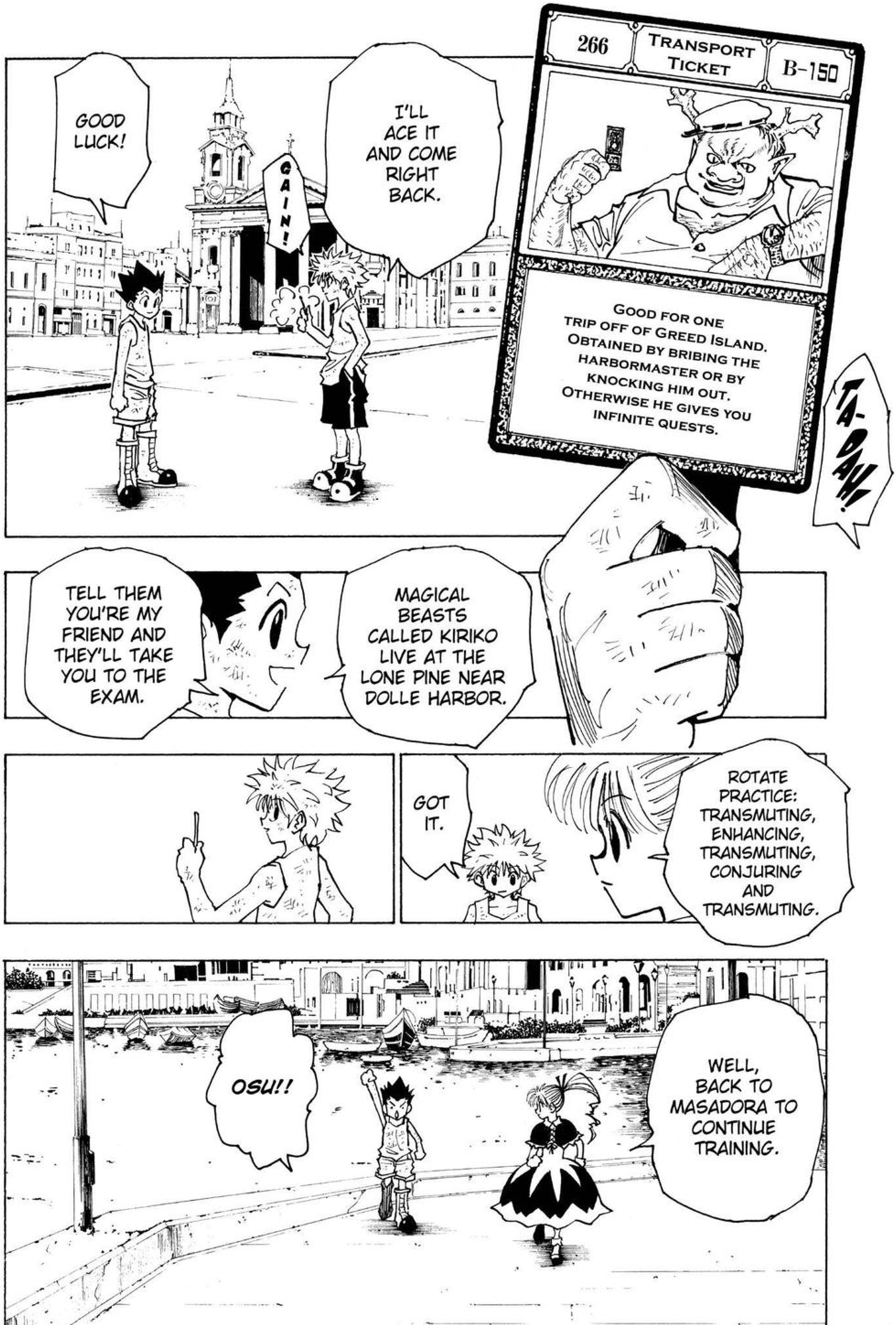

GYO!!

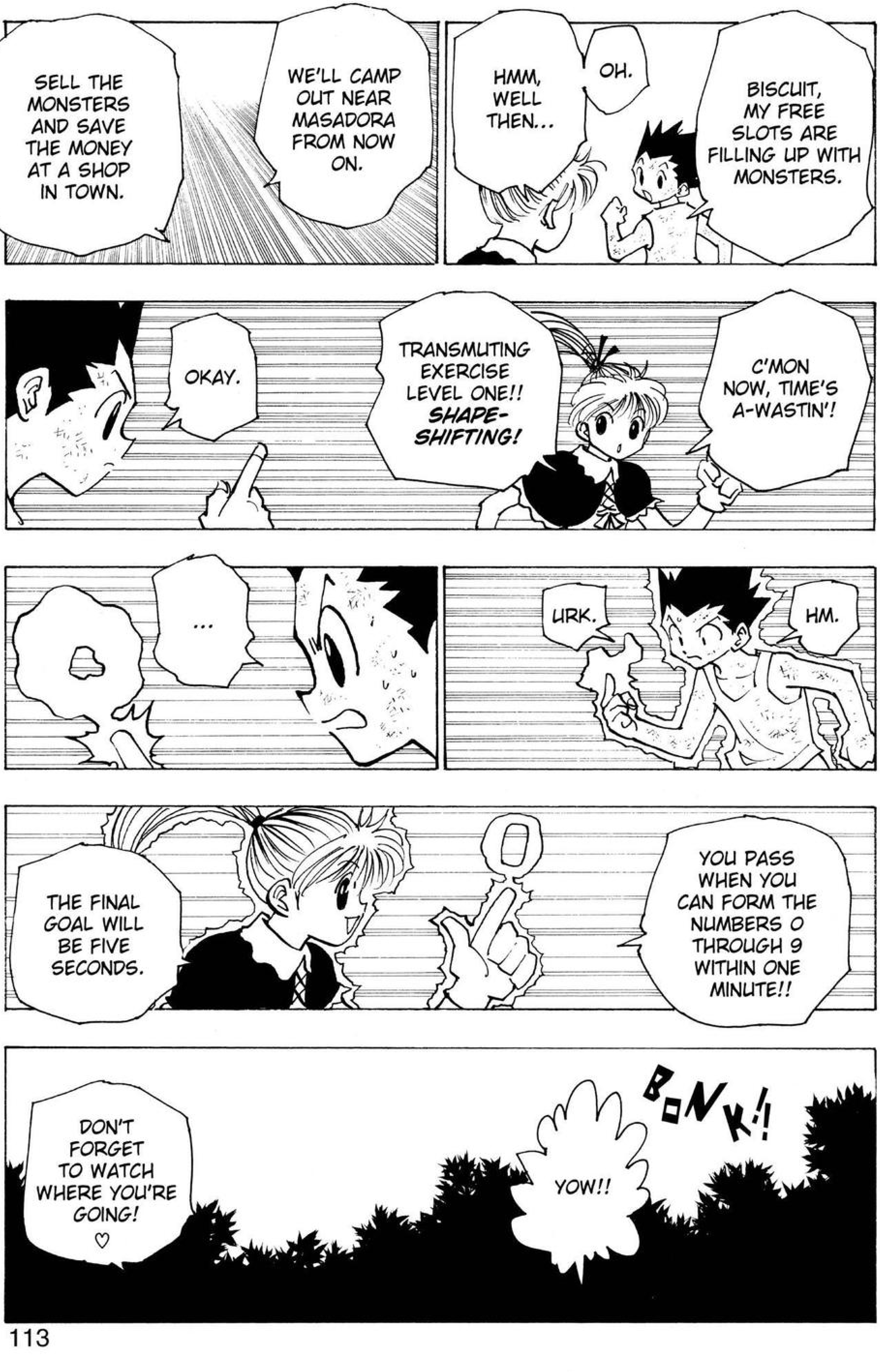


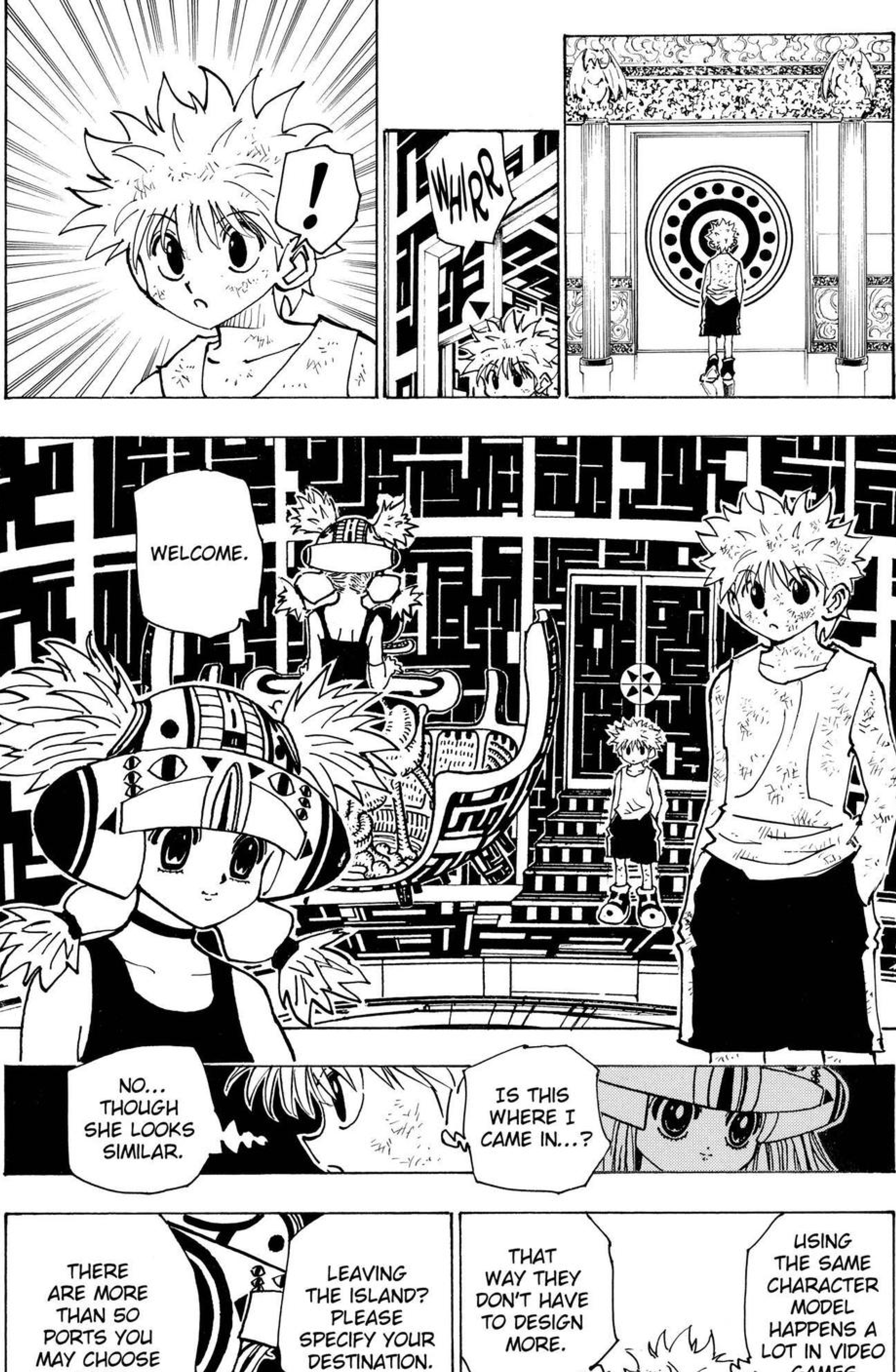
WHFF!!
FFT
CAREFUL-- THEY LOOK THE SAME, BUT THEY ATTACK DIFFERENTLY!!
I SEE IT!!
SKSH
WHFF!!
598
ALPHA WOLF
C-45

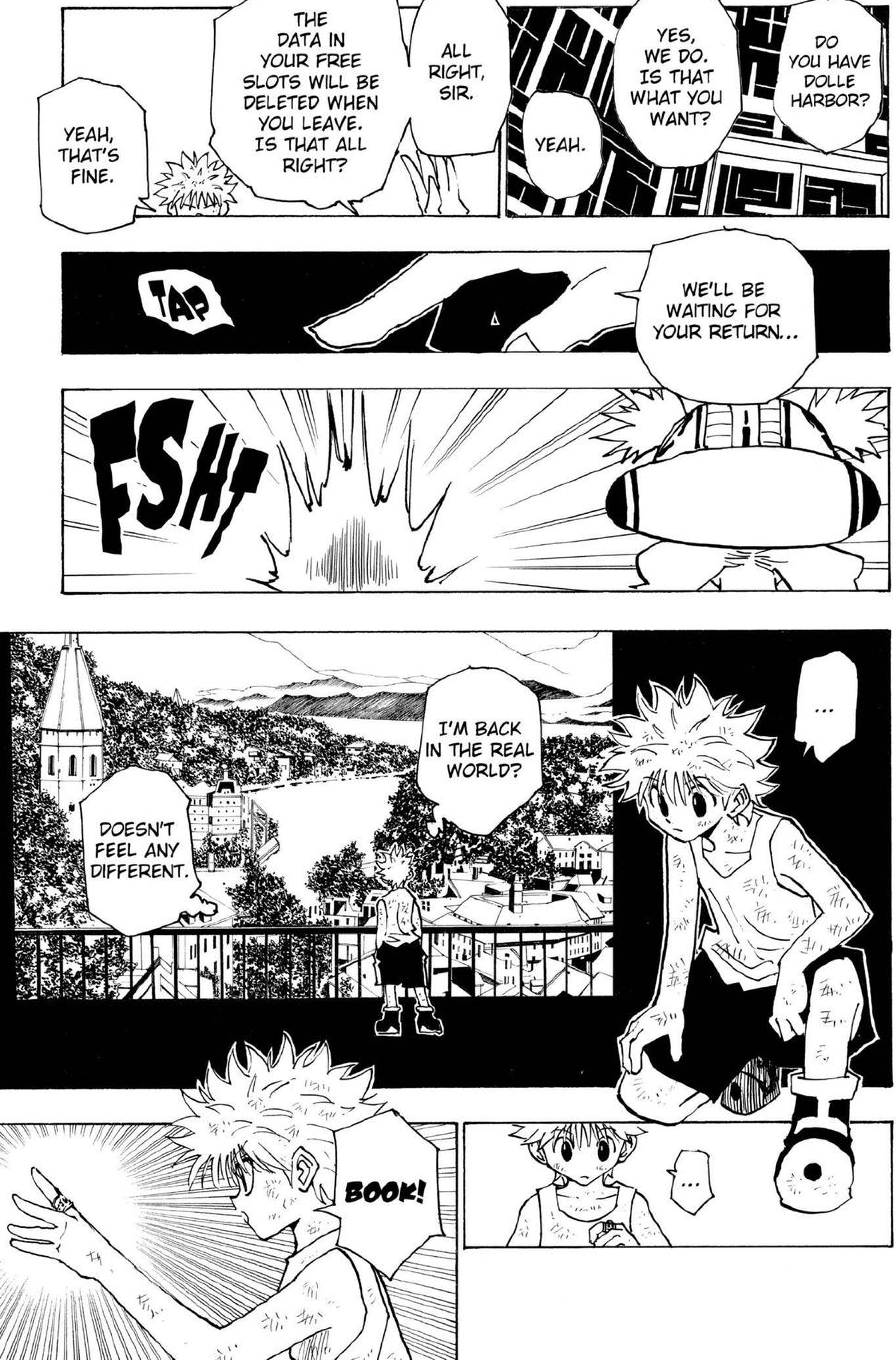
The leader of a pack of wolves that attacks travelers, and the most powerful rank-C monster. His minions reappear indefinitely until he is defeated.

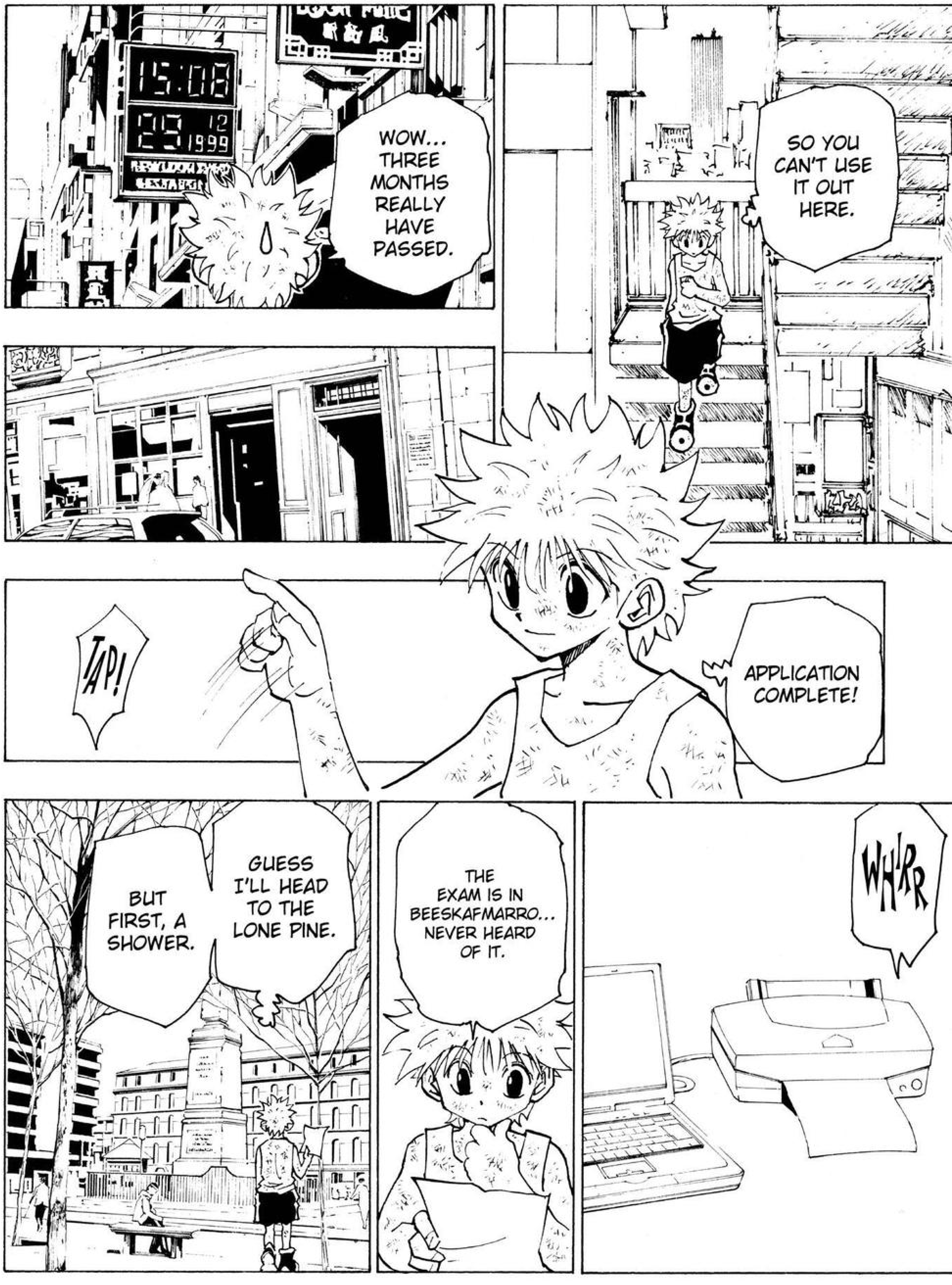
ALMOST ANNOYING HOW PERFECT THEY ARE.
I'D BET THEY'D EVEN CRUSH RANK-B MONSTERS NOW...

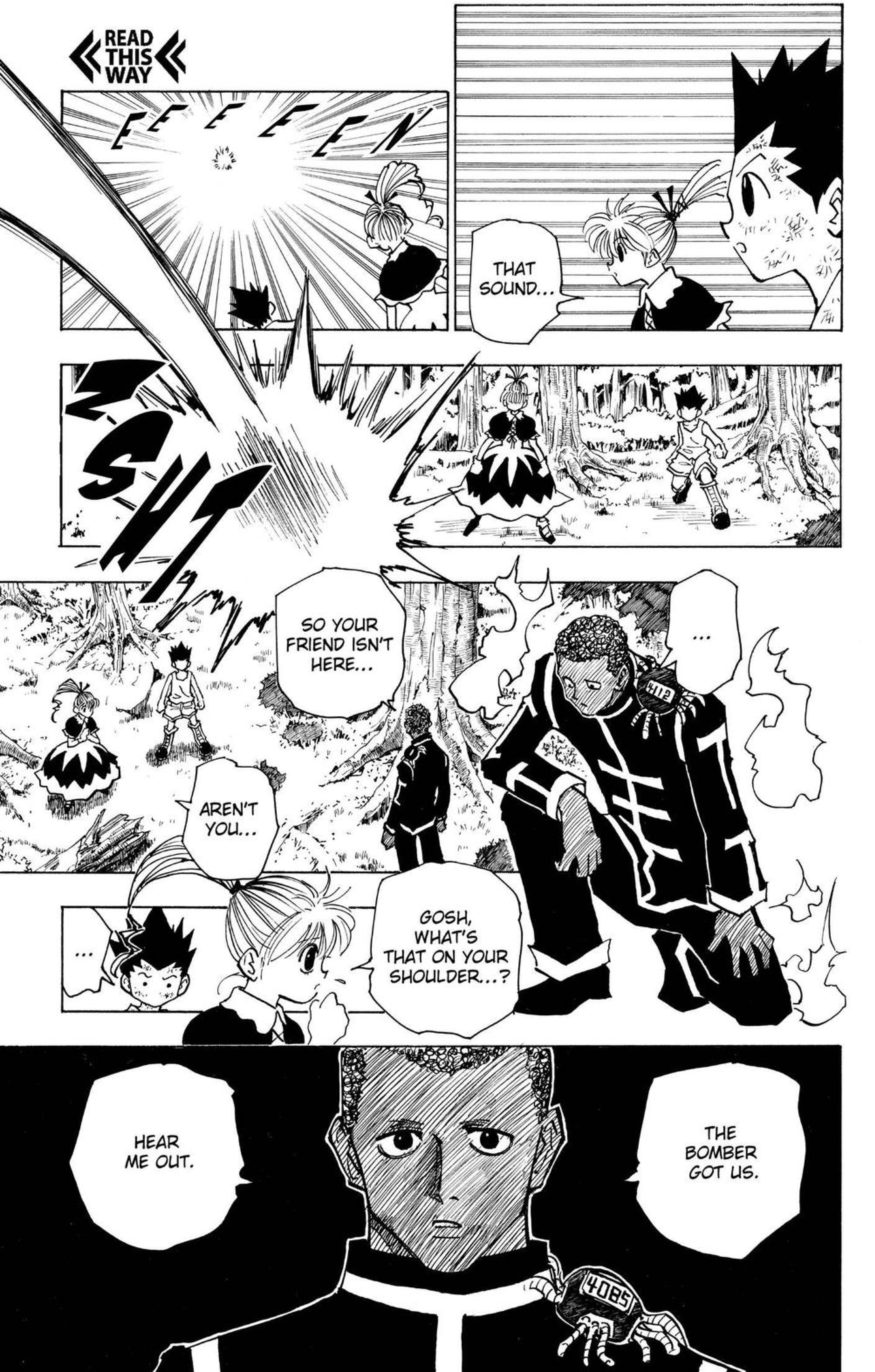

TA-DAH!
266
Transport Ticket
B-150
Good for one trip off of Greed Island. Obtained by bribing the harbormaster or by knocking him out. Otherwise he gives you infinite quests.
I'll ace it and come right back.
GAIN!
GOOD LUCK!
MAGICAL BEASTS CALLED KIRIKO LIVE AT THE LONE PINE NEAR DOLLE HARBOR.
TELL THEM YOU'RE MY FRIEND AND THEY'LL TAKE YOU TO THE EXAM.
ROTATE PRACTICE: TRANSMUTING, ENHANCING, TRANSMUTING, CONJURING AND TRANSMUTING.
GOT IT.
WELL, BACK TO MASADORA TO CONTINUE TRAINING.
OSU!!


BISCUIT, MY FREE SLOTS ARE FILLING UP WITH MONSTERS.
OH.
HMM, WELL THEN...
WE'LL CAMP OUT NEAR MASADORA FROM NOW ON.
SELL THE MONSTERS AND SAVE THE MONEY AT A SHOP IN TOWN.
C'MON NOW, TIME'S A-WASTIN'!
TRANSMUTING EXERCISE LEVEL ONE!! SHAPE-SHIFTING!
OKAY.
HM.
URK.
...
YOU PASS WHEN YOU CAN FORM THE NUMBERS 0 THROUGH 9 WITHIN ONE MINUTE!!
THE FINAL GOAL WILL BE FIVE SECONDS.
BONK!!
YOW!!
DON'T FORGET TO WATCH WHERE YOU'RE GOING! ♡

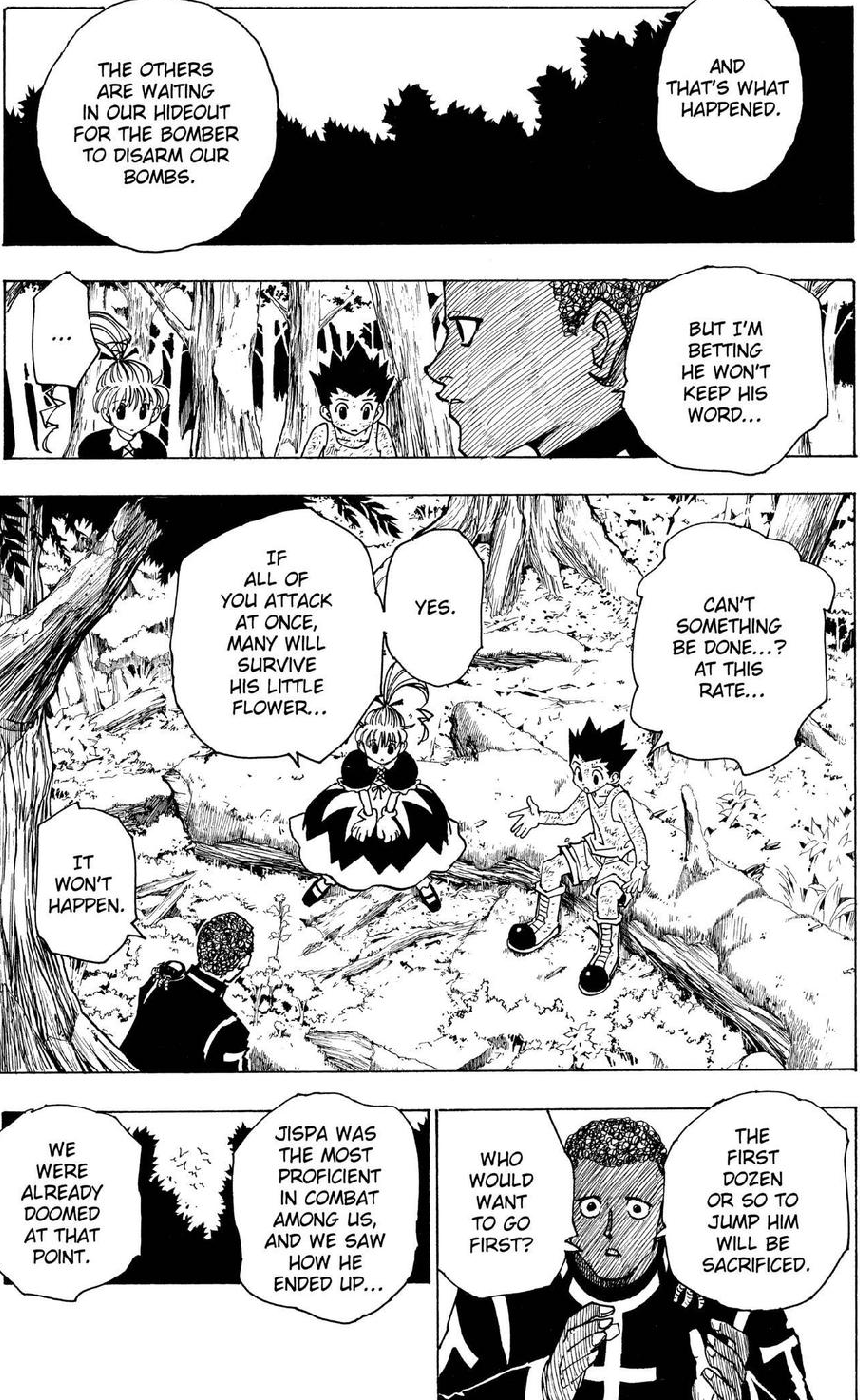

WHIRR
!
WELCOME.
IS THIS WHERE I CAME IN...?
NO... THOUGH SHE LOOKS SIMILAR.
USING THE SAME CHARACTER MODEL HAPPENS A LOT IN VIDEO GAMES.
THAT WAY THEY DON'T HAVE TO DESIGN MORE.
LEAVING THE ISLAND? PLEASE SPECIFY YOUR DESTINATION.
THERE ARE MORE THAN 50 PORTS YOU MAY CHOOSE FROM.

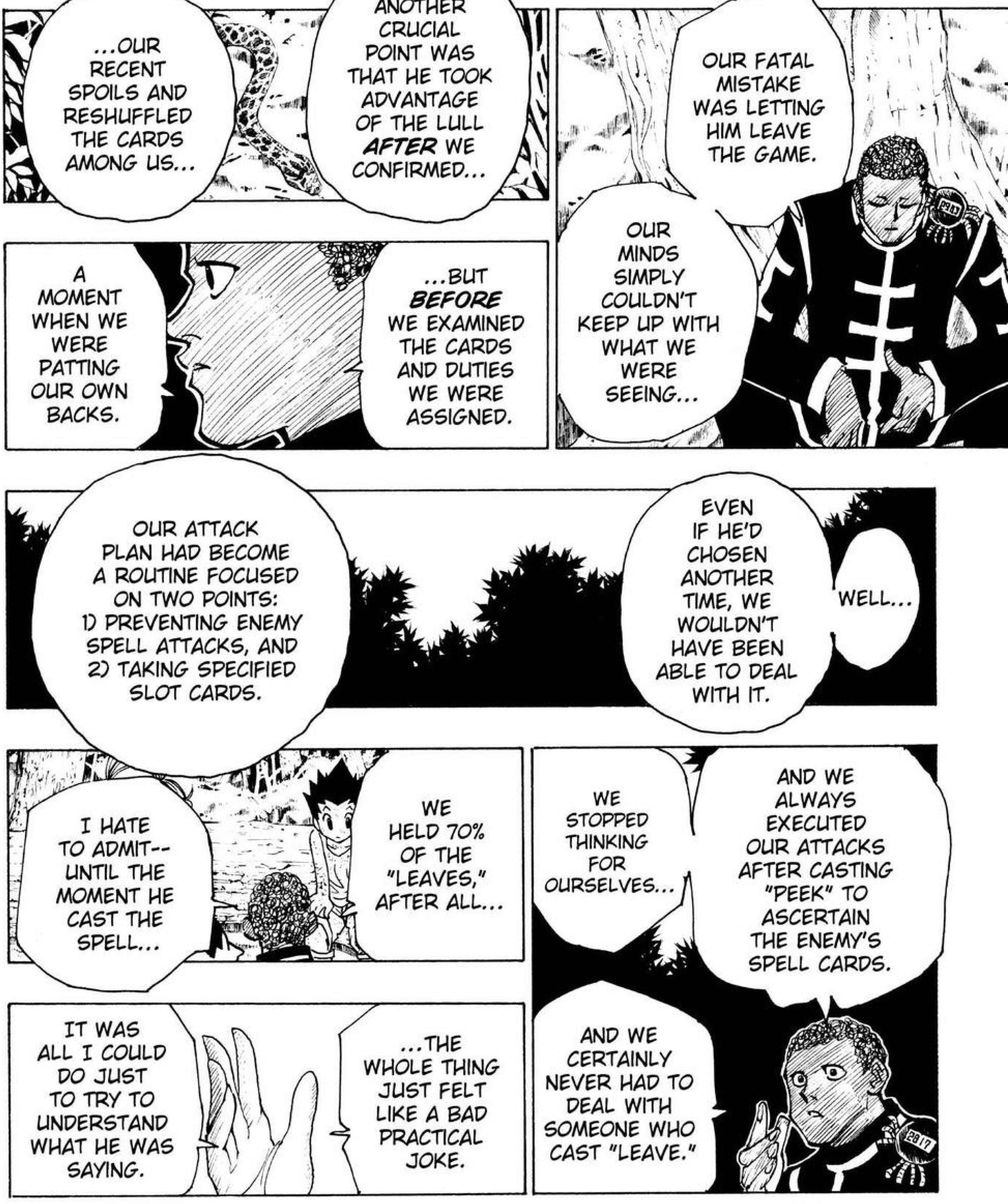

DO YOU HAVE DOLLE HARBOR?
YES, WE DO. IS THAT WHAT YOU WANT?
YEAH.
ALL RIGHT, SIR.
THE DATA IN YOUR FREE SLOTS WILL BE DELETED WHEN YOU LEAVE. IS THAT ALL RIGHT?
YEAH, THAT'S FINE.
WE'LL BE WAITING FOR YOUR RETURN...
TAP
FSHT
...
I'M BACK IN THE REAL WORLD?
DOESN'T FEEL ANY DIFFERENT.
...
BOOK!

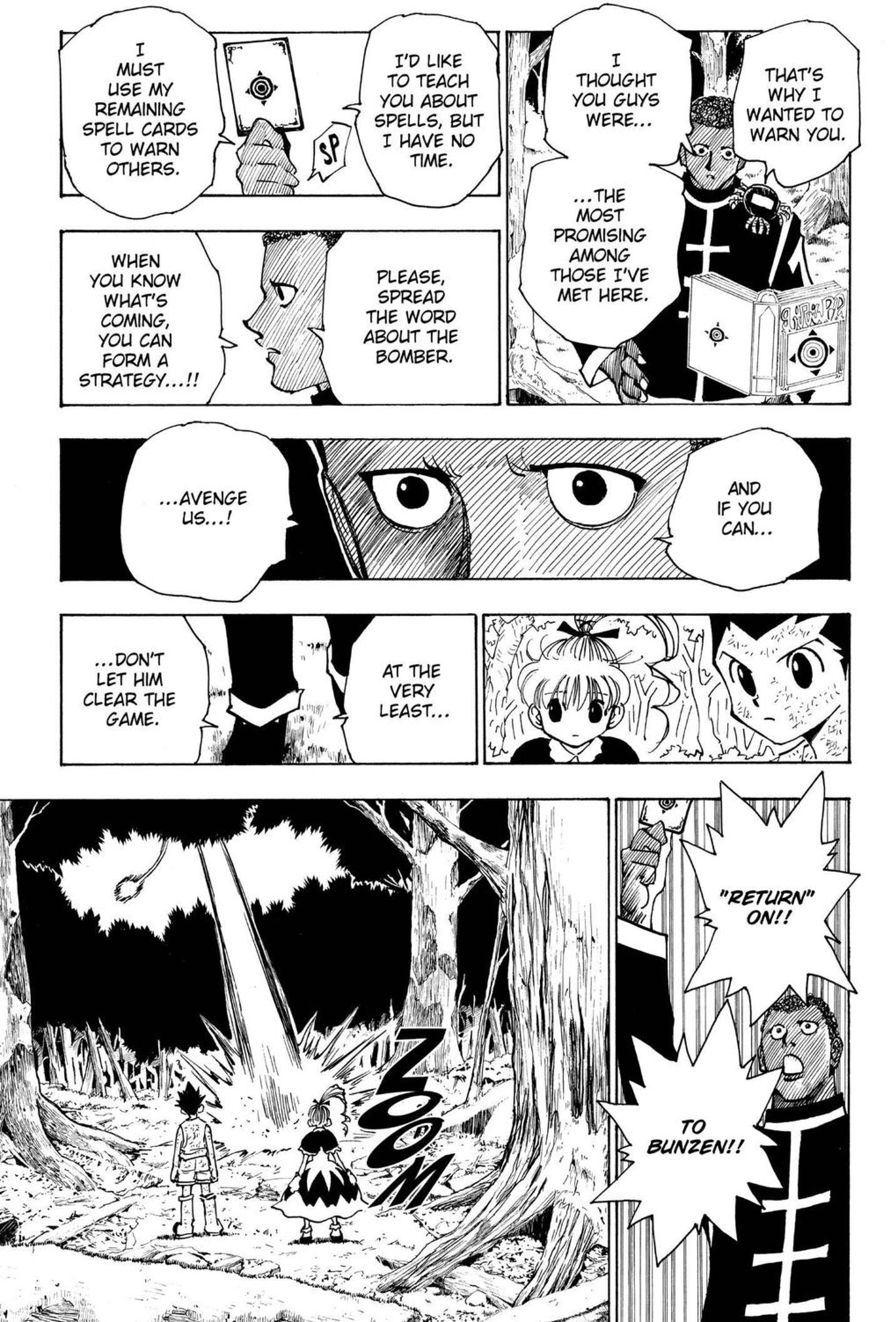

SO YOU CAN'T USE IT OUT HERE.
15:08
25 12 1999
WOW... THREE MONTHS REALLY HAVE PASSED.
APPLICATION COMPLETE!
TAP!
WHIRR
THE EXAM IS IN BEESKAFMARRO... NEVER HEARD OF IT.
GUESS I'LL HEAD TO THE LONE PINE.
BUT FIRST, A SHOWER.

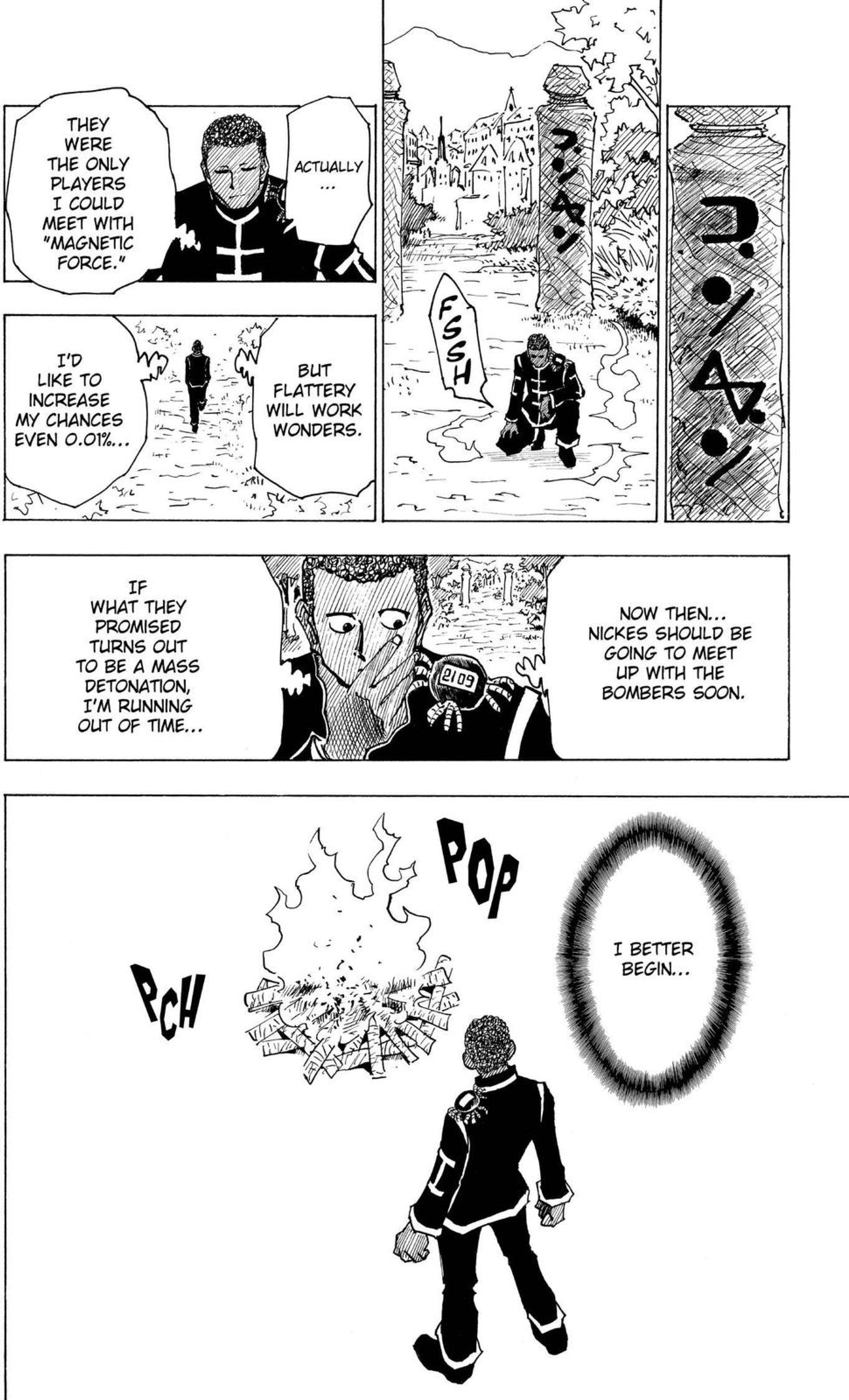
READ THIS WAY
THAT SOUND...
EEEEEEN
ZSHT
...
SO YOUR FRIEND ISN'T HERE...
AREN'T YOU...
GOSH, WHAT'S THAT ON YOUR SHOULDER...?
...
4112
THE BOMBER GOT US.
HEAR ME OUT.
4085

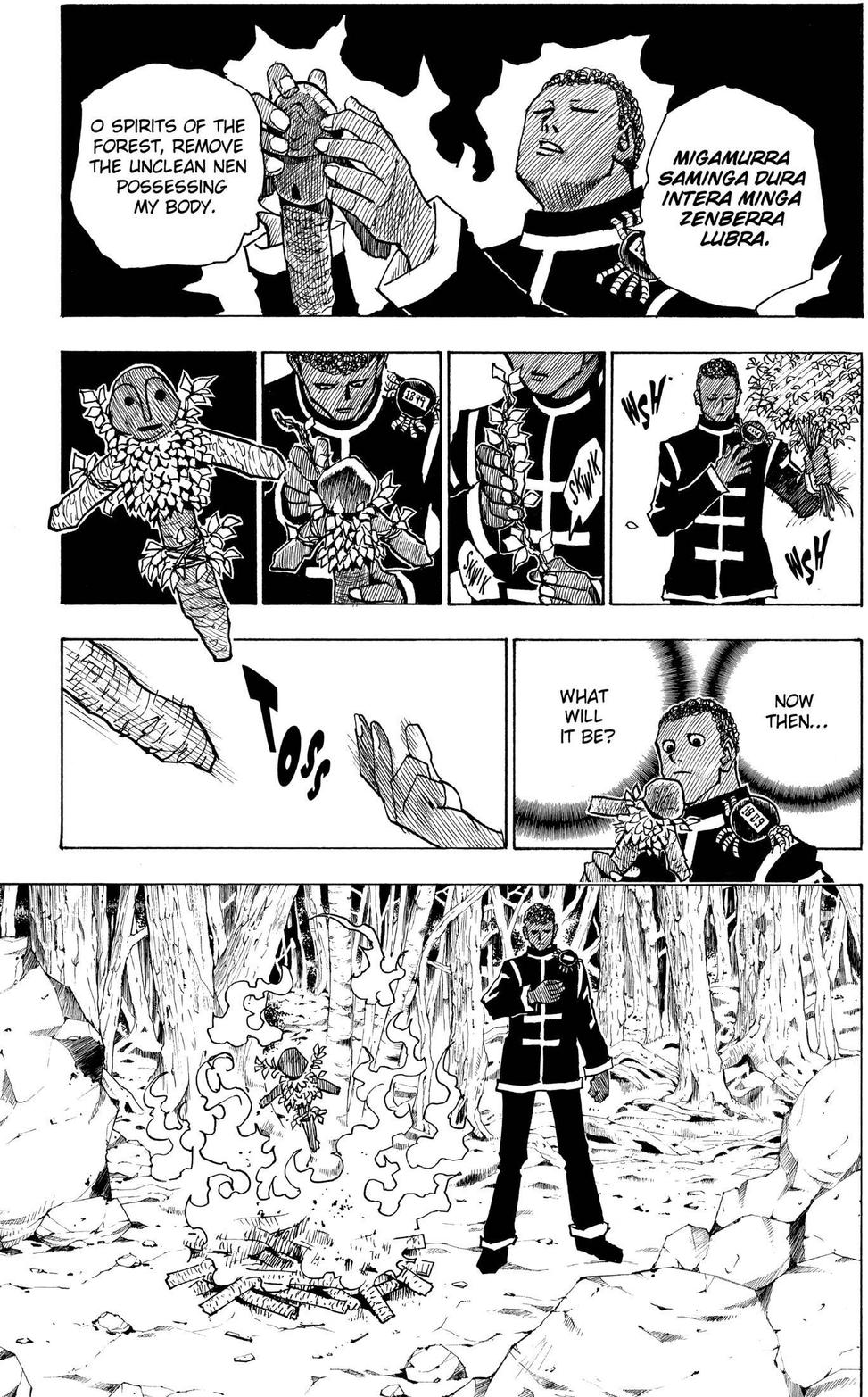
Chapter 147: Abengane: Part 2

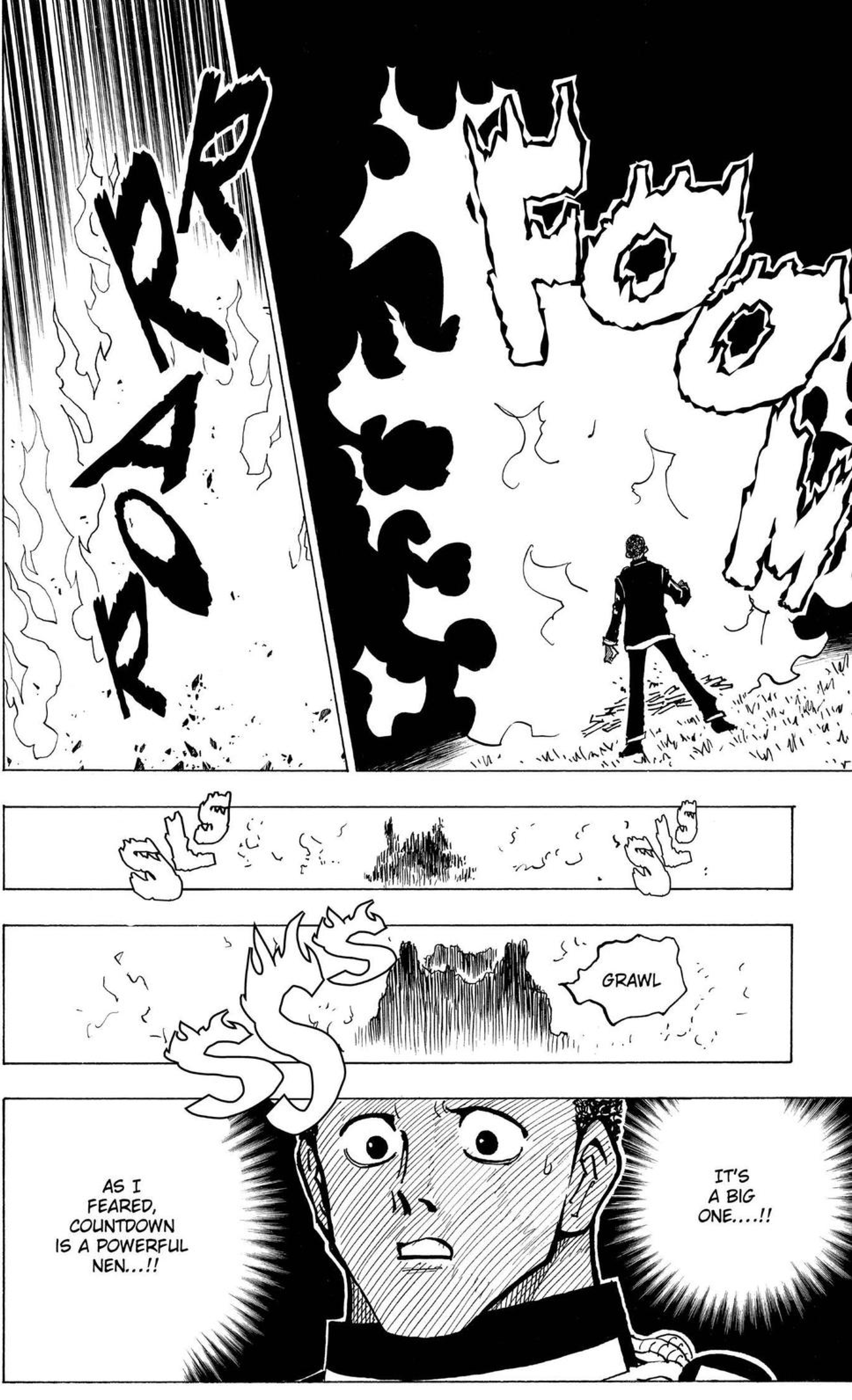

AND THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED.
THE OTHERS ARE WAITING IN OUR HIDEOUT FOR THE BOMBER TO DISARM OUR BOMBS.
BUT I'M BETTING HE WON'T KEEP HIS WORD...
...
CAN'T SOMETHING BE DONE...? AT THIS RATE...
IF ALL OF YOU ATTACK AT ONCE, MANY WILL SURVIVE HIS LITTLE FLOWER...
YES.
IT WON'T HAPPEN.
THE FIRST DOZEN OR SO TO JUMP HIM WILL BE SACRIFICED.
WHO WOULD WANT TO GO FIRST?
JISPA WAS THE MOST PROFICIENT IN COMBAT AMONG US, AND WE SAW HOW HE ENDED UP...
WE WERE ALREADY DOOMED AT THAT POINT.

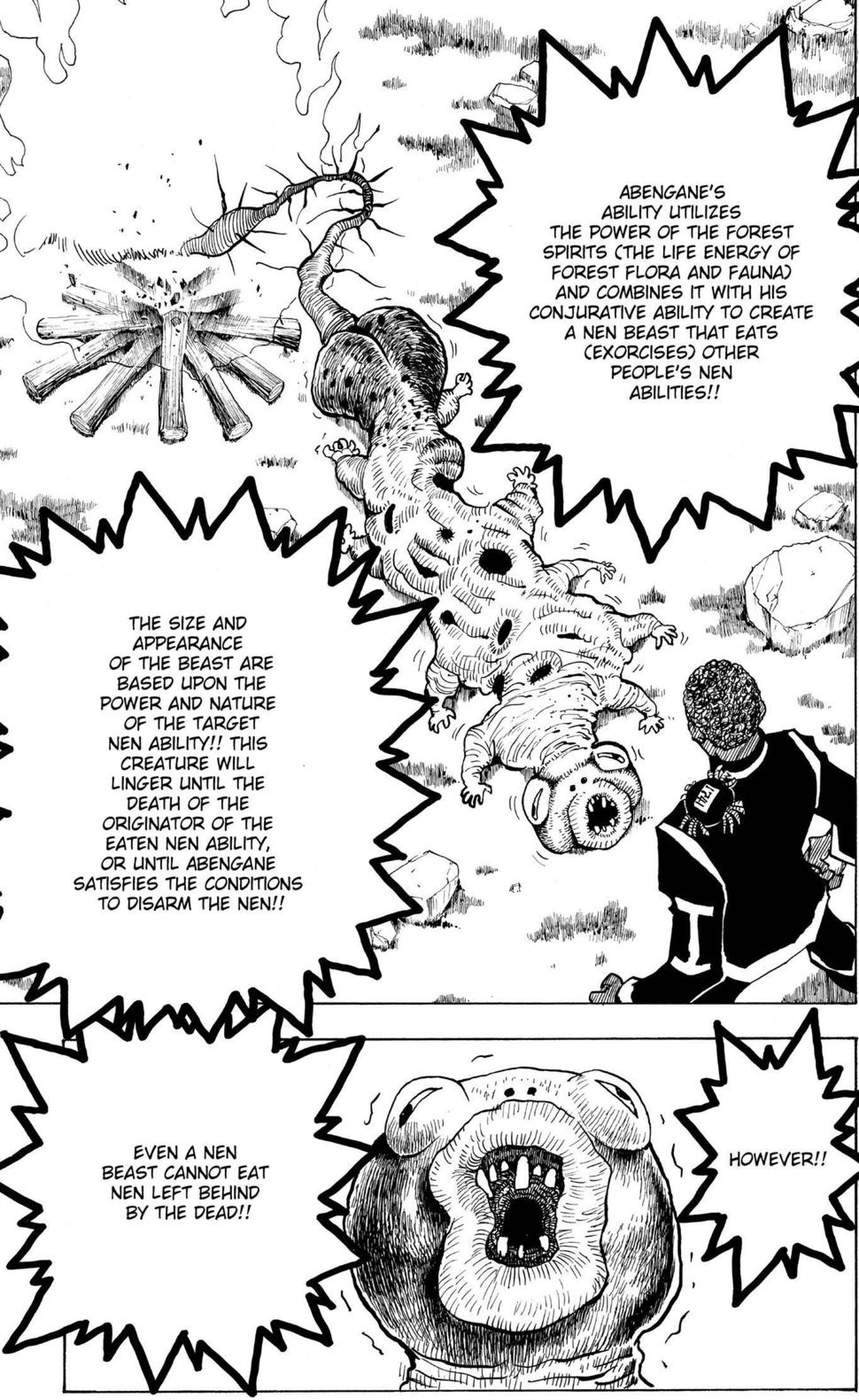

OUR FATAL MISTAKE WAS LETTING HIM LEAVE THE GAME.
OUR MINDS SIMPLY COULDN'T KEEP UP WITH WHAT WE WERE SEEING...
ANOTHER CRUCIAL POINT WAS THAT HE TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE LULL AFTER WE CONFIRMED...
...OUR RECENT SPOILS AND RESHUFFLED THE CARDS AMONG US...
...BUT BEFORE WE EXAMINED THE CARDS AND DUTIES WE WERE ASSIGNED.
A MOMENT WHEN WE WERE PATTING OUR OWN BACKS.
WELL...
EVEN IF HE'D CHOSEN ANOTHER TIME, WE WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DEAL WITH IT.
OUR ATTACK PLAN HAD BECOME A ROUTINE FOCUSED ON TWO POINTS: 1) PREVENTING ENEMY SPELL ATTACKS, AND 2) TAKING SPECIFIED SLOT CARDS.
AND WE ALWAYS EXECUTED OUR ATTACKS AFTER CASTING "PEEK" TO ASCERTAIN THE ENEMY'S SPELL CARDS.
WE STOPPED THINKING FOR OURSELVES...
AND WE CERTAINLY NEVER HAD TO DEAL WITH SOMEONE WHO CAST "LEAVE."
WE HELD 70% OF THE "LEAVES," AFTER ALL...
I HATE TO ADMIT-- UNTIL THE MOMENT HE CAST THE SPELL...
...THE WHOLE THING JUST FELT LIKE A BAD PRACTICAL JOKE.
IT WAS ALL I COULD DO JUST TO TRY TO UNDERSTAND WHAT HE WAS SAYING.
HE WAS CALLING ALL THE SHOTS. CAUGHT OFF GUARD LIKE THAT...
...THERE'S PROBABLY NO WAY TO STOP THE BOMBS FROM GETTING ACTIVATED...!

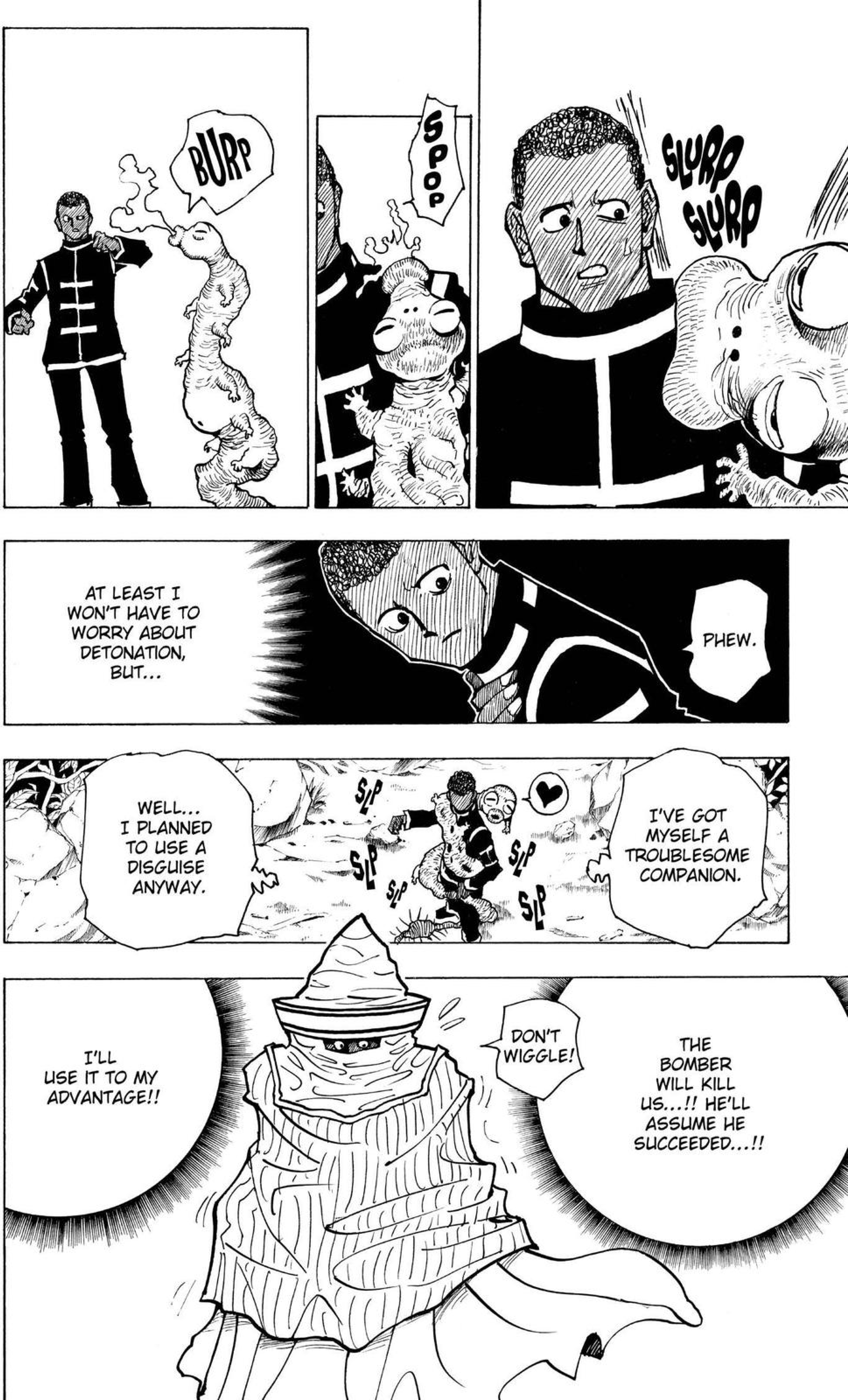

THAT'S WHY I WANTED TO WARN YOU.
I THOUGHT YOU GUYS WERE...
...THE MOST PROMISING AMONG THOSE I'VE MET HERE.
I'D LIKE TO TEACH YOU ABOUT SPELLS, BUT I HAVE NO TIME.
SP
I MUST USE MY REMAINING SPELL CARDS TO WARN OTHERS.
PLEASE, SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT THE BOMBER.
WHEN YOU KNOW WHAT'S COMING, YOU CAN FORM A STRATEGY...!!
AND IF YOU CAN...
...AVENGE US...!
AT THE VERY LEAST...
...DON'T LET HIM CLEAR THE GAME.
"RETURN" ON!!
TO BUNZEN!!
ZOOM

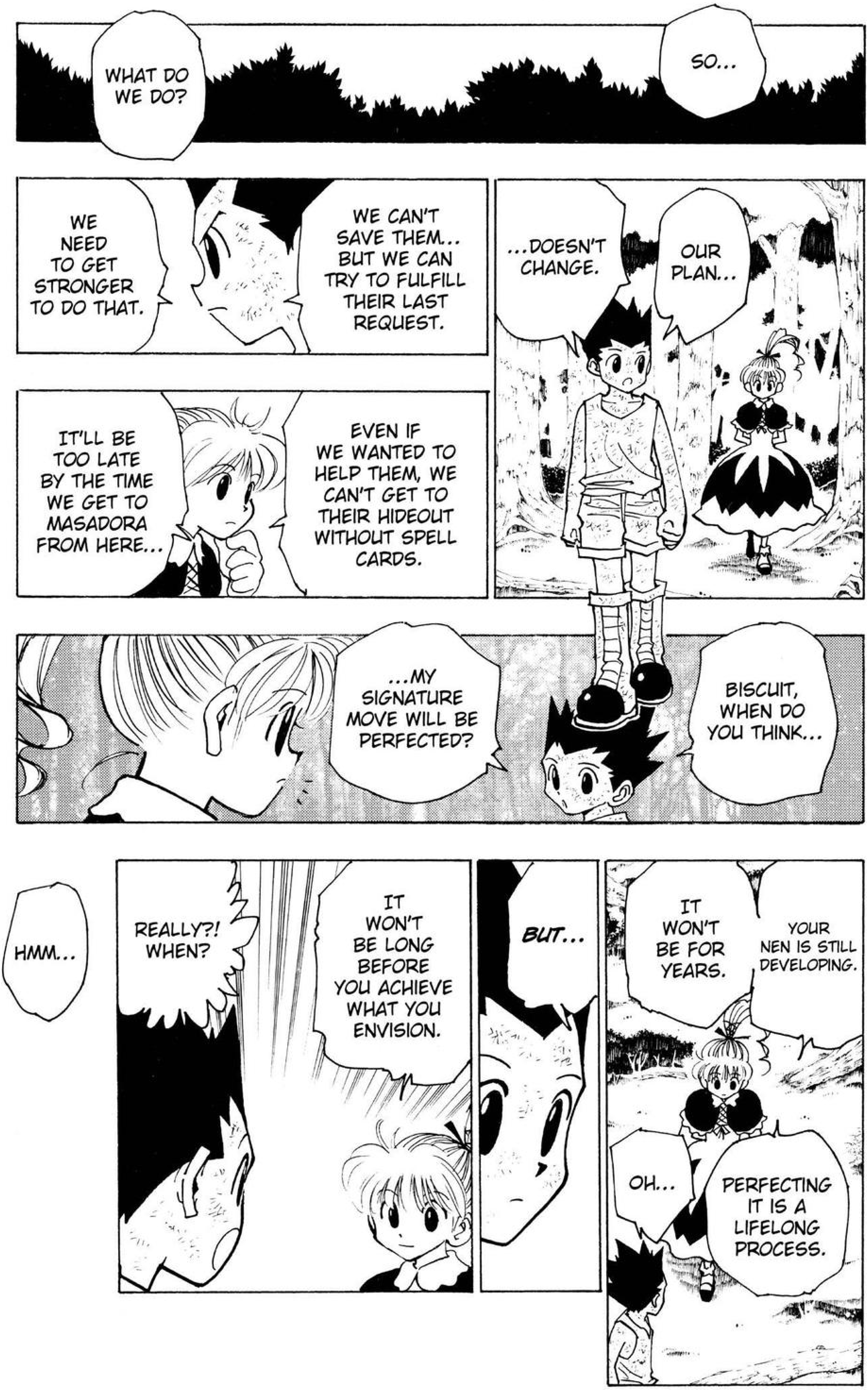

FSSH
ACTUALLY ...
THEY WERE THE ONLY PLAYERS I COULD MEET WITH "MAGNETIC FORCE."
BUT FLATTERY WILL WORK WONDERS.
I'D LIKE TO INCREASE MY CHANCES EVEN 0.01%...
NOW THEN... NICKES SHOULD BE GOING TO MEET UP WITH THE BOMBERS SOON.
2109
IF WHAT THEY PROMISED TURNS OUT TO BE A MASS DETONATION, I'M RUNNING OUT OF TIME...
I BETTER BEGIN...
POP
PCH

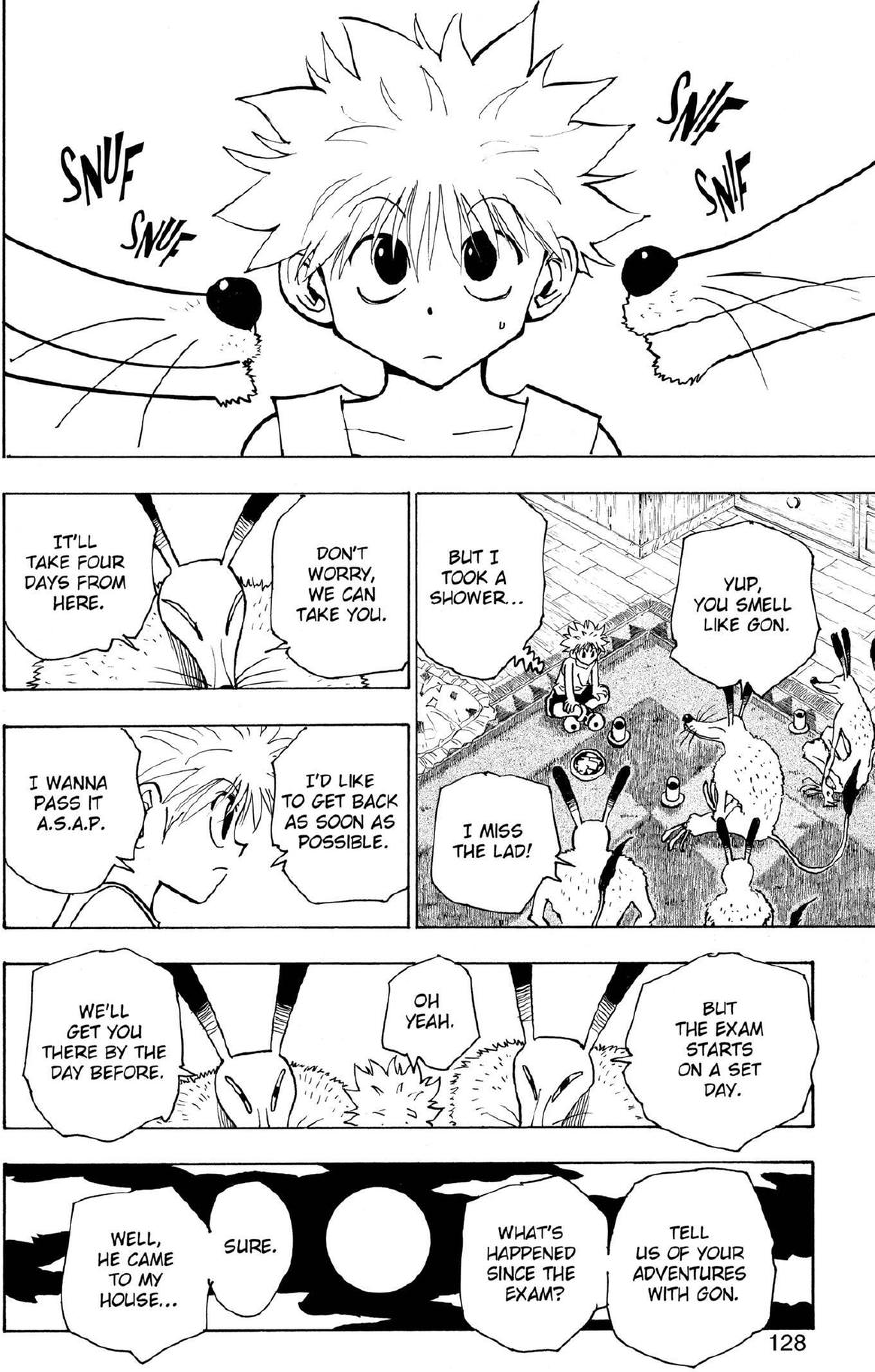

MIGAMURRA SAMINGA DURA INTERA MINGA ZENBERRA LUBRA.
O SPIRITS OF THE FOREST, REMOVE THE UNCLEAN NEN POSSESSING MY BODY.
WSH
WSH
SKWIK
SKWIK
NOW THEN...
WHAT WILL IT BE?
TOSS

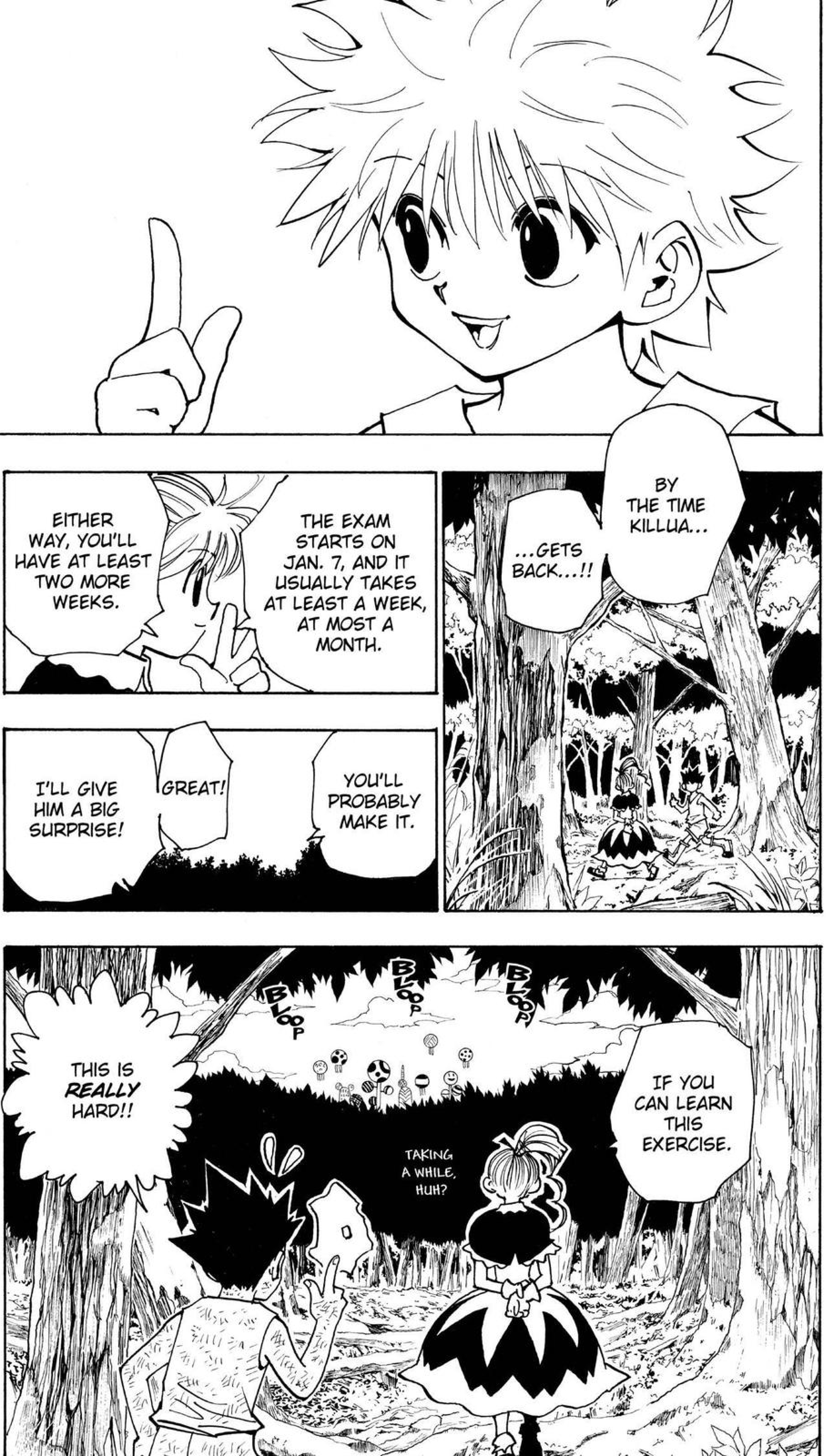

FOOM
ROARR
SSS
GRAWL
IT'S A BIG ONE....!!
AS I FEARED, COUNTDOWN IS A POWERFUL NEN...!!

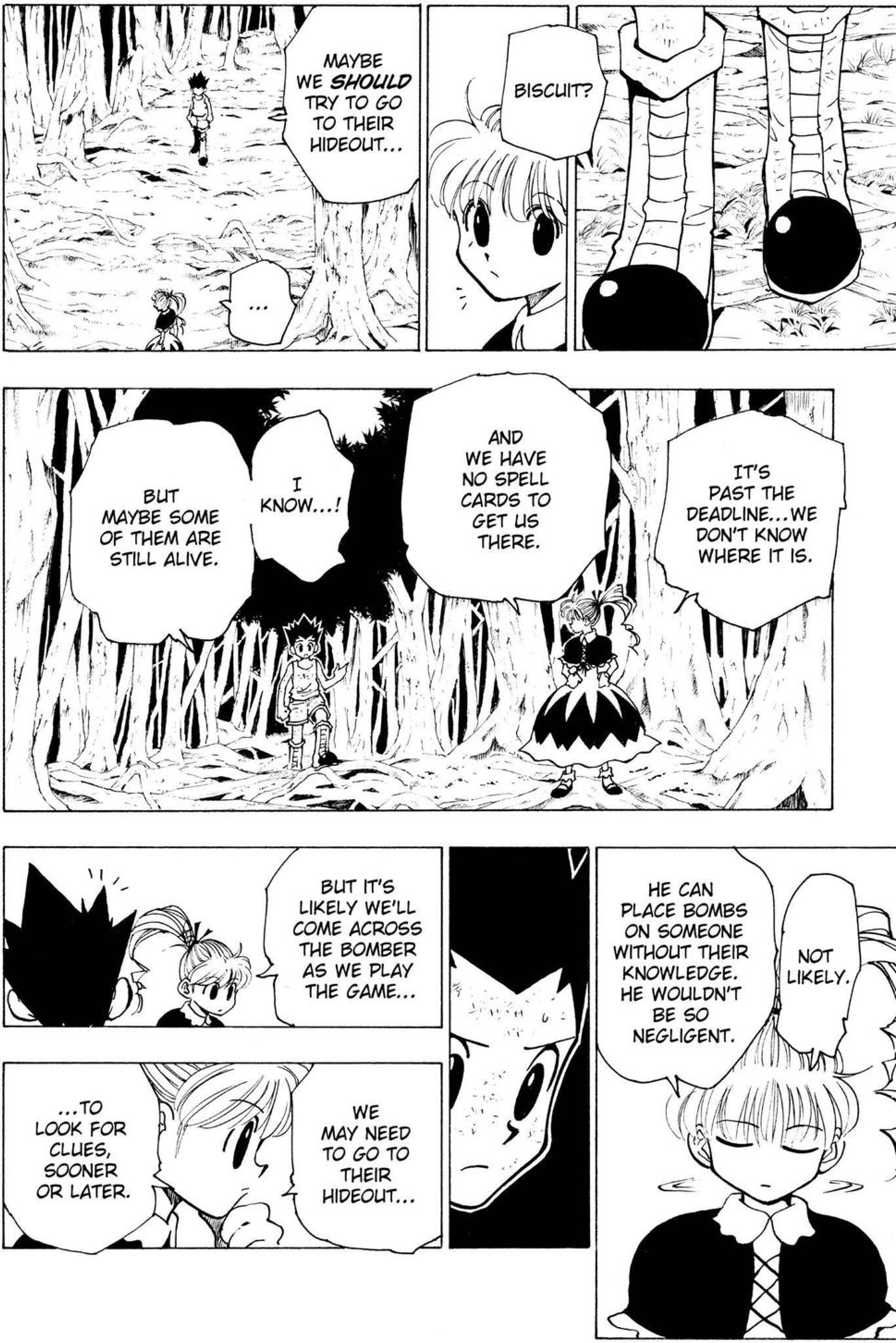

ABENGANE'S ABILITY UTILIZES THE POWER OF THE FOREST SPIRITS (THE LIFE ENERGY OF FOREST FLORA AND FAUNA) AND COMBINES IT WITH HIS CONJURATIVE ABILITY TO CREATE A NEN BEAST THAT EATS (EXORCISES) OTHER PEOPLE'S NEN ABILITIES!!
THE SIZE AND APPEARANCE OF THE BEAST ARE BASED UPON THE POWER AND NATURE OF THE TARGET NEN ABILITY!! THIS CREATURE WILL LINGER UNTIL THE DEATH OF THE ORIGINATOR OF THE EATEN NEN ABILITY, OR UNTIL ABENGANE SATISFIES THE CONDITIONS TO DISARM THE NEN!!
HOWEVER!!
EVEN A NEN BEAST CANNOT EAT NEN LEFT BEHIND BY THE DEAD!!

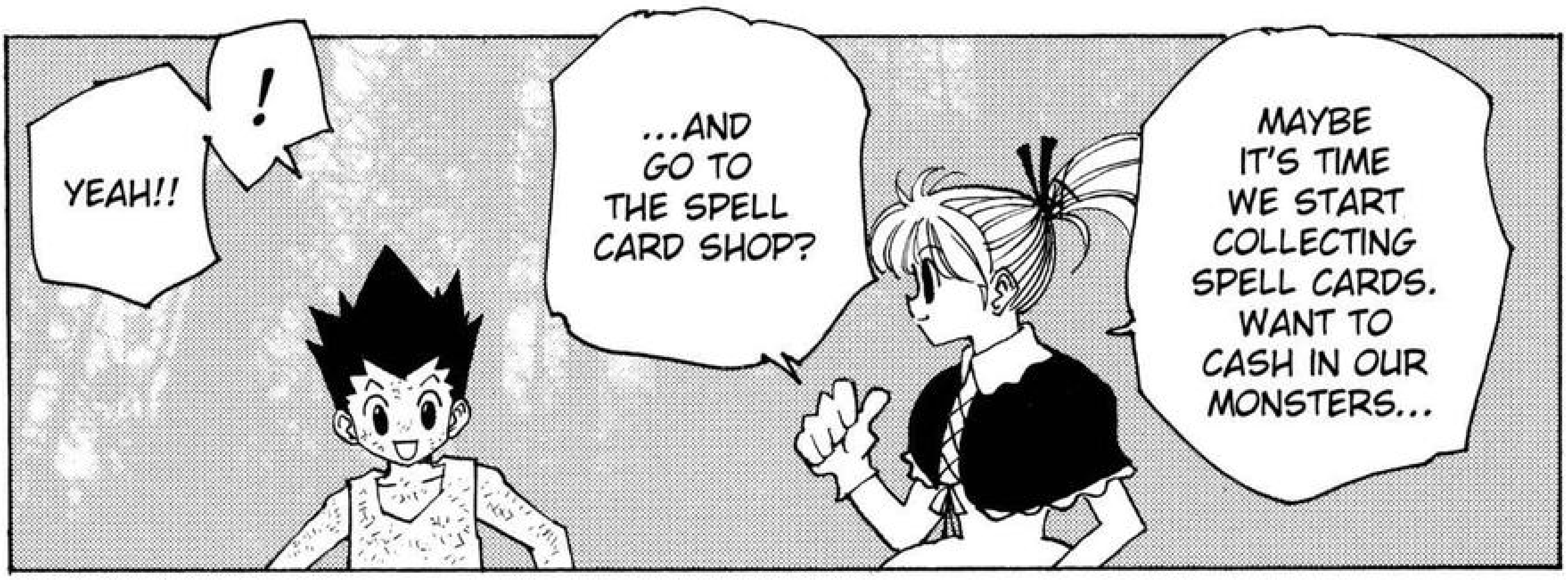

SLURP SLURP
SPOP
BURP
PHEW.
AT LEAST I WON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT DETONATION, BUT...
I'VE GOT MYSELF A TROUBLESOME COMPANION.
SLP
SLP
SLP
SLP
SLP
WELL... I PLANNED TO USE A DISGUISE ANYWAY.
THE BOMBER WILL KILL US...!! HE'LL ASSUME HE SUCCEEDED...!!
DON'T WIGGLE!
I'LL USE IT TO MY ADVANTAGE!!

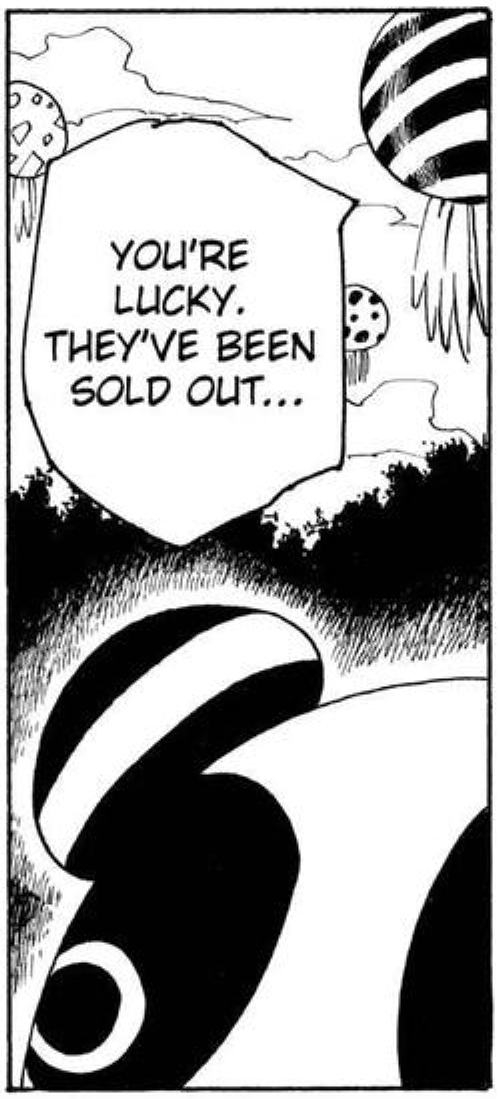

SO...
WHAT DO WE DO?
OUR PLAN...
...DOESN'T CHANGE.
WE CAN'T SAVE THEM... BUT WE CAN TRY TO FULFILL THEIR LAST REQUEST.
WE NEED TO GET STRONGER TO DO THAT.
EVEN IF WE WANTED TO HELP THEM, WE CAN'T GET TO THEIR HIDEOUT WITHOUT SPELL CARDS.
IT'LL BE TOO LATE BY THE TIME WE GET TO MASADORA FROM HERE...
BISCUIT, WHEN DO YOU THINK...
...MY SIGNATURE MOVE WILL BE PERFECTED?
HMM...
YOUR NEN IS STILL DEVELOPING.
IT WON'T BE FOR YEARS.
PERFECTING IT IS A LIFELONG PROCESS.
OH...
BUT...
IT WON'T BE LONG BEFORE YOU ACHIEVE WHAT YOU ENVISION.
REALLY?! WHEN?

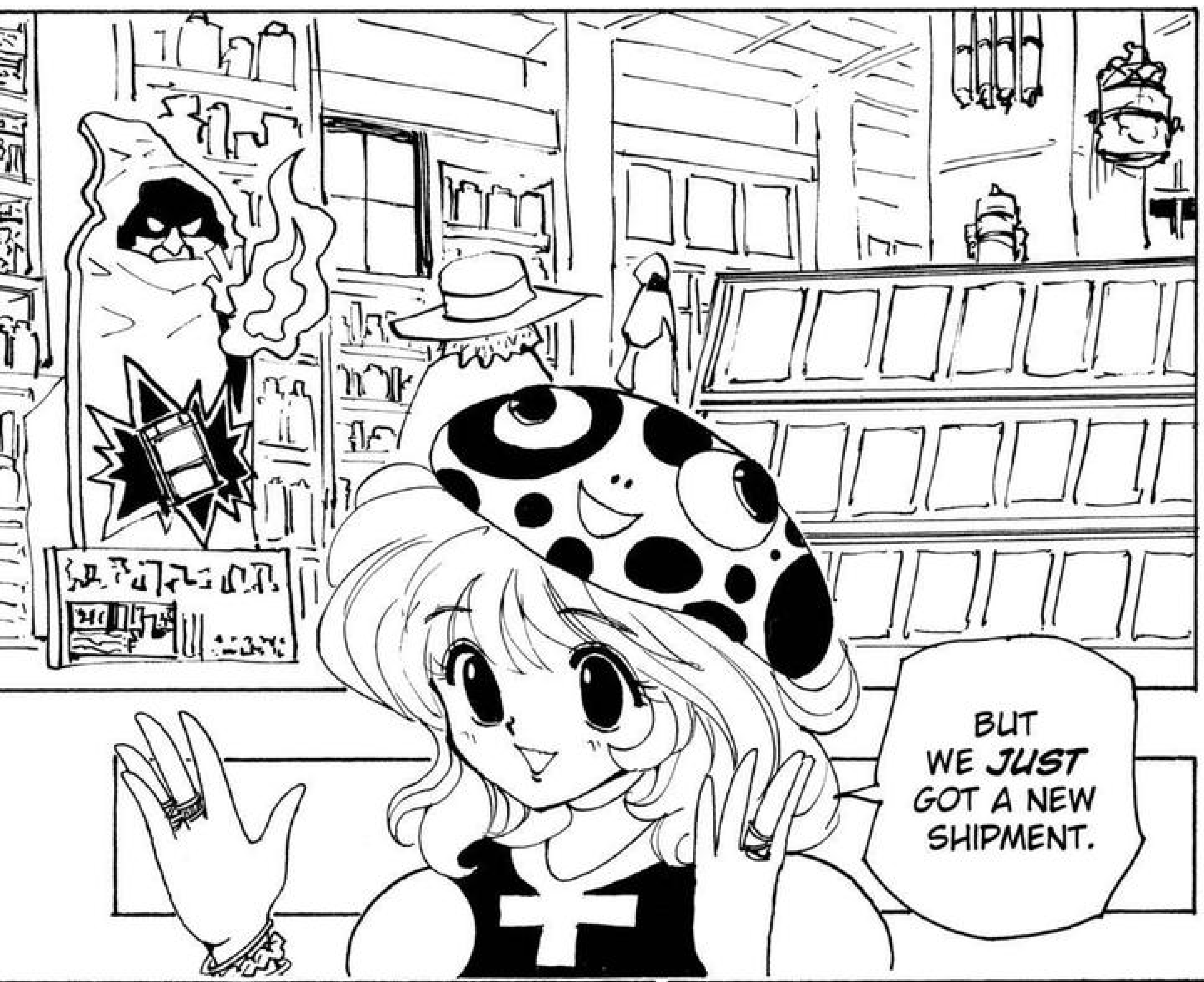

SNIF SNIF
SNUF SNUF
YUP, YOU SMELL LIKE GON.
BUT I TOOK A SHOWER…
I MISS THE LAD!
DON'T WORRY, WE CAN TAKE YOU.
IT'LL TAKE FOUR DAYS FROM HERE.
I'D LIKE TO GET BACK AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
I WANNA PASS IT A.S.A.P.
BUT THE EXAM STARTS ON A SET DAY.
OH YEAH.
WE'LL GET YOU THERE BY THE DAY BEFORE.
TELL US OF YOUR ADVENTURES WITH GON.
WHAT'S HAPPENED SINCE THE EXAM?
SURE.
WELL, HE CAME TO MY HOUSE…

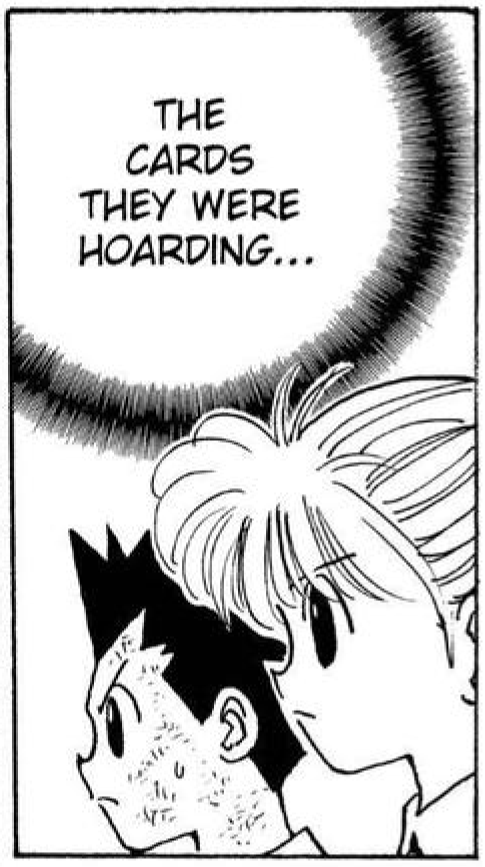

THE EXAM STARTS ON JAN. 7, AND IT USUALLY TAKES AT LEAST A WEEK, AT MOST A MONTH.
EITHER WAY, YOU'LL HAVE AT LEAST TWO MORE WEEKS.
YOU'LL PROBABLY MAKE IT.
GREAT!
I'LL GIVE HIM A BIG SURPRISE!
BY THE TIME KILLUA...
...GETS BACK...!!
BLOOP
BLOOP
BLOOP
IF YOU CAN LEARN THIS EXERCISE.
TAKING A WHILE, HUH?
THIS IS *REALLY* HARD!!

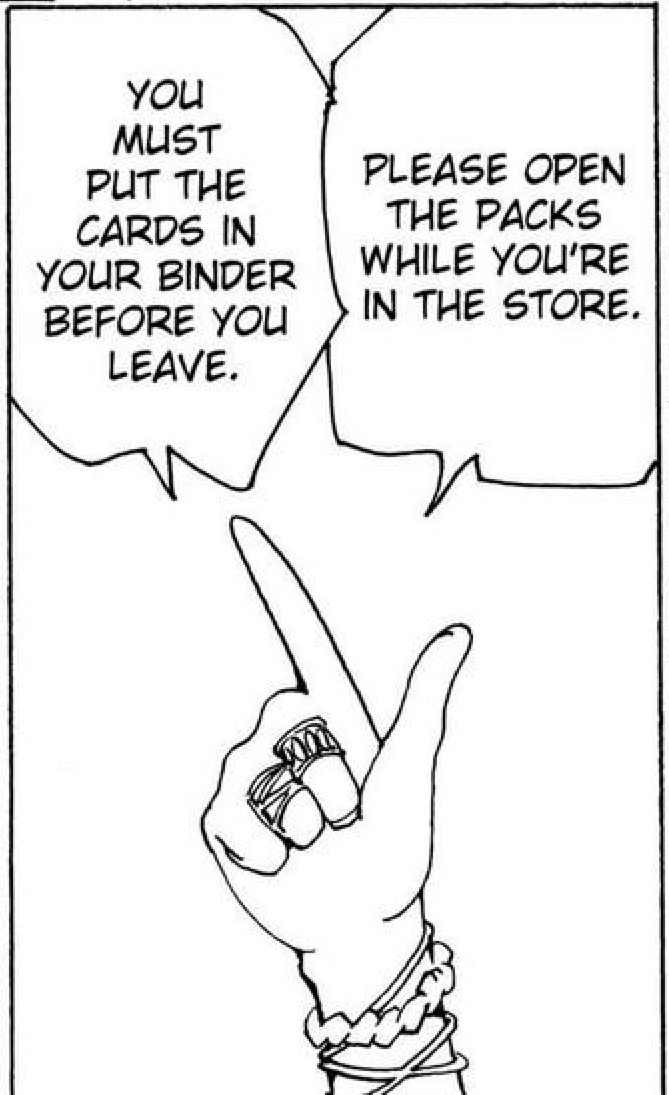

BISCUIT?
MAYBE WE ***SHOULD*** TRY TO GO TO THEIR HIDEOUT...
...
IT'S PAST THE DEADLINE...WE DON'T KNOW WHERE IT IS.
AND WE HAVE NO SPELL CARDS TO GET US THERE.
I KNOW...!
BUT MAYBE SOME OF THEM ARE STILL ALIVE.
NOT LIKELY.
HE CAN PLACE BOMBS ON SOMEONE WITHOUT THEIR KNOWLEDGE. HE WOULDN'T BE SO NEGLIGENT.
BUT IT'S LIKELY WE'LL COME ACROSS THE BOMBER AS WE PLAY THE GAME...
WE MAY NEED TO GO TO THEIR HIDEOUT...
...TO LOOK FOR CLUES, SOONER OR LATER.

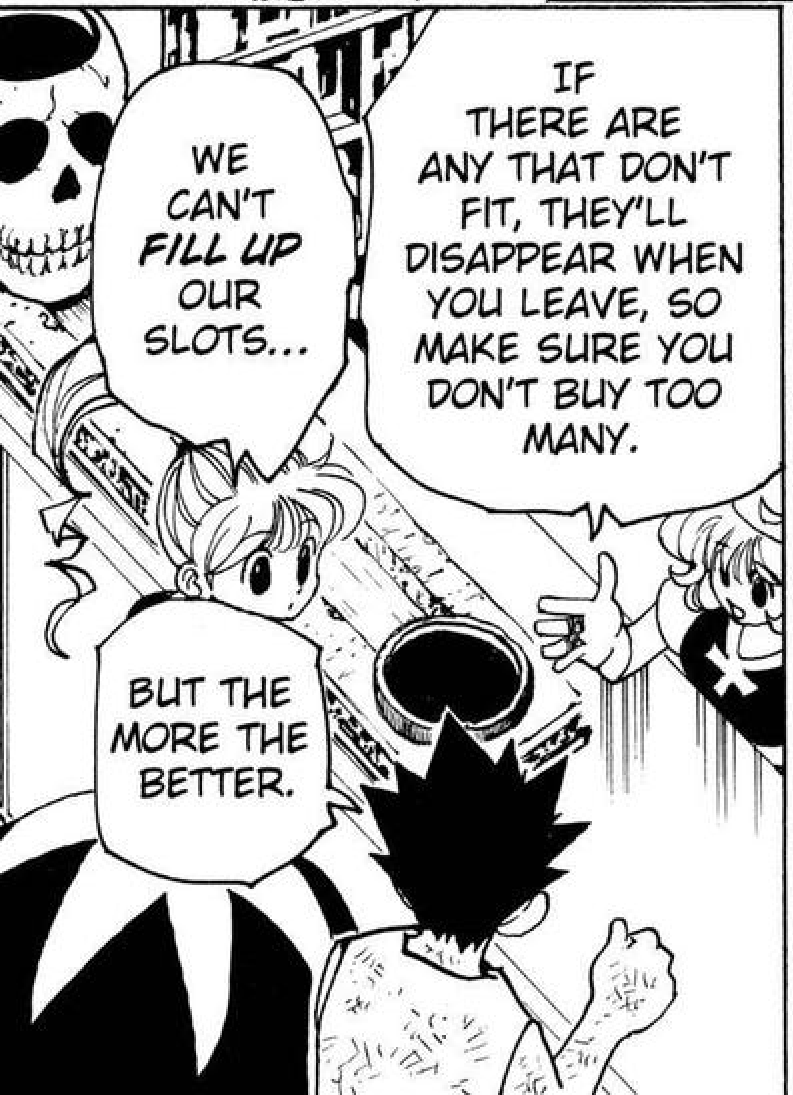

MAYBE IT'S TIME WE START COLLECTING SPELL CARDS. WANT TO CASH IN OUR MONSTERS...
...AND GO TO THE SPELL CARD SHOP?
!
YEAH!!

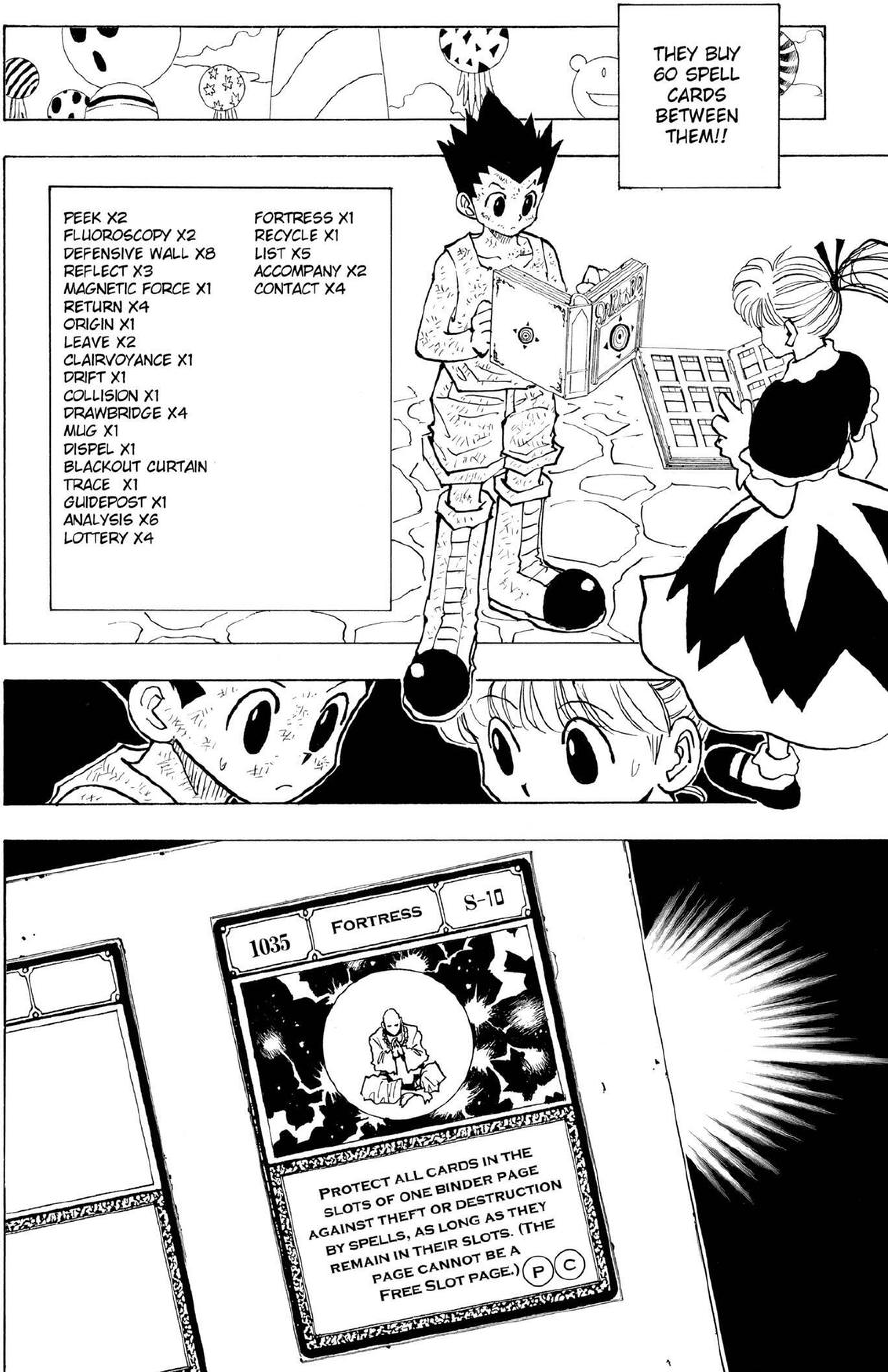

YOU'RE LUCKY. THEY'VE BEEN SOLD OUT...

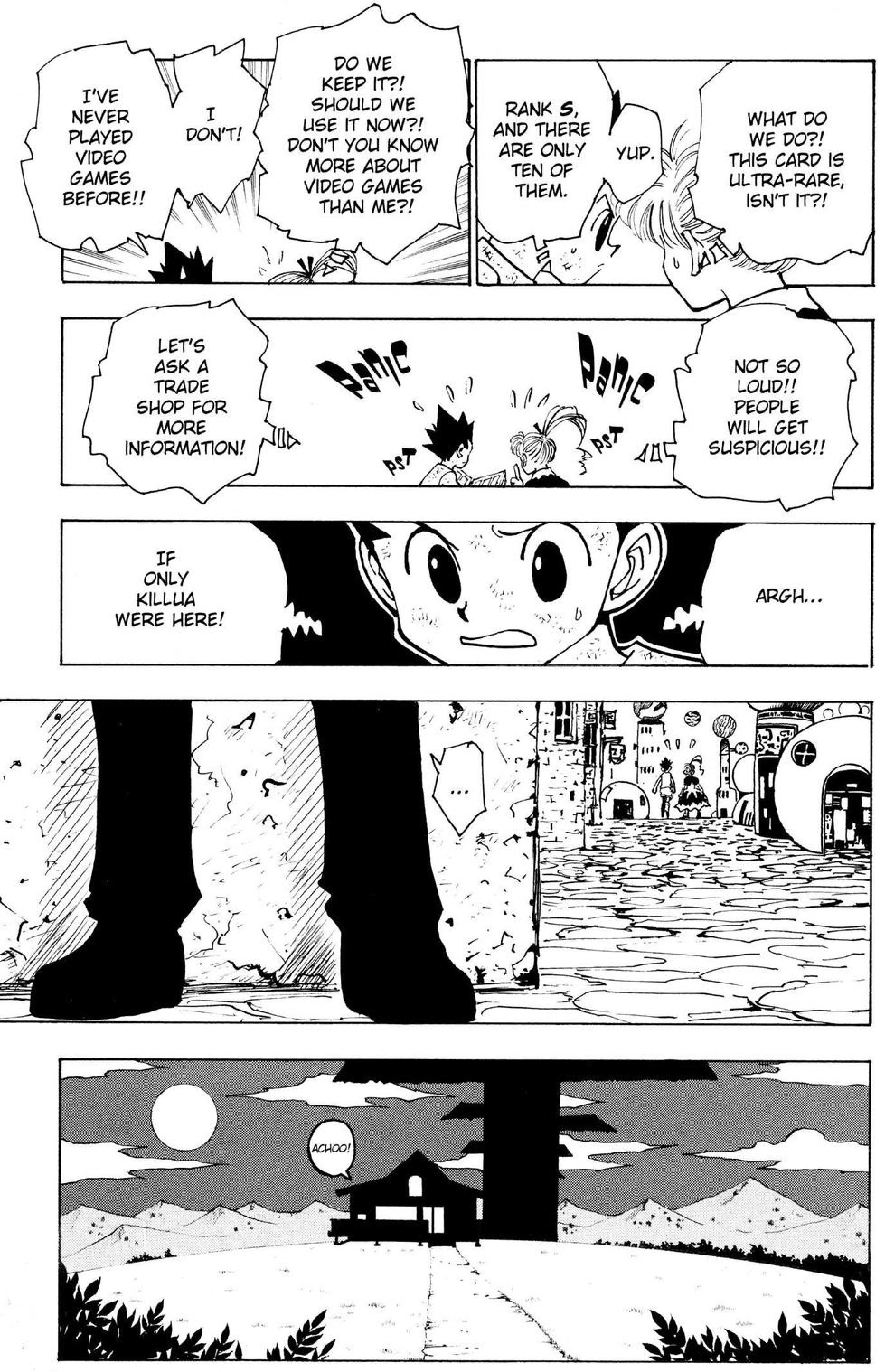

BUT WE ***JUST*** GOT A NEW SHIPMENT.

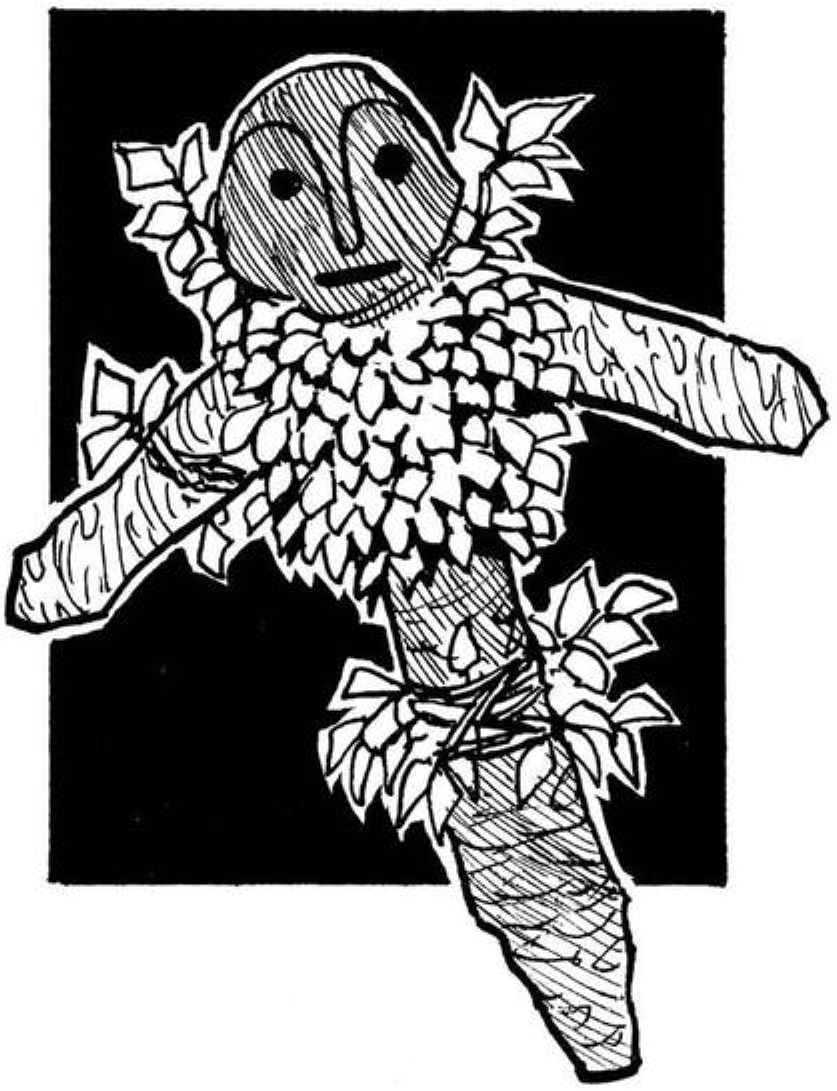

THE CARDS THEY WERE HOARDING...


PLEASE OPEN THE PACKS WHILE YOU'RE IN THE STORE.
YOU MUST PUT THE CARDS IN YOUR BINDER BEFORE YOU LEAVE.

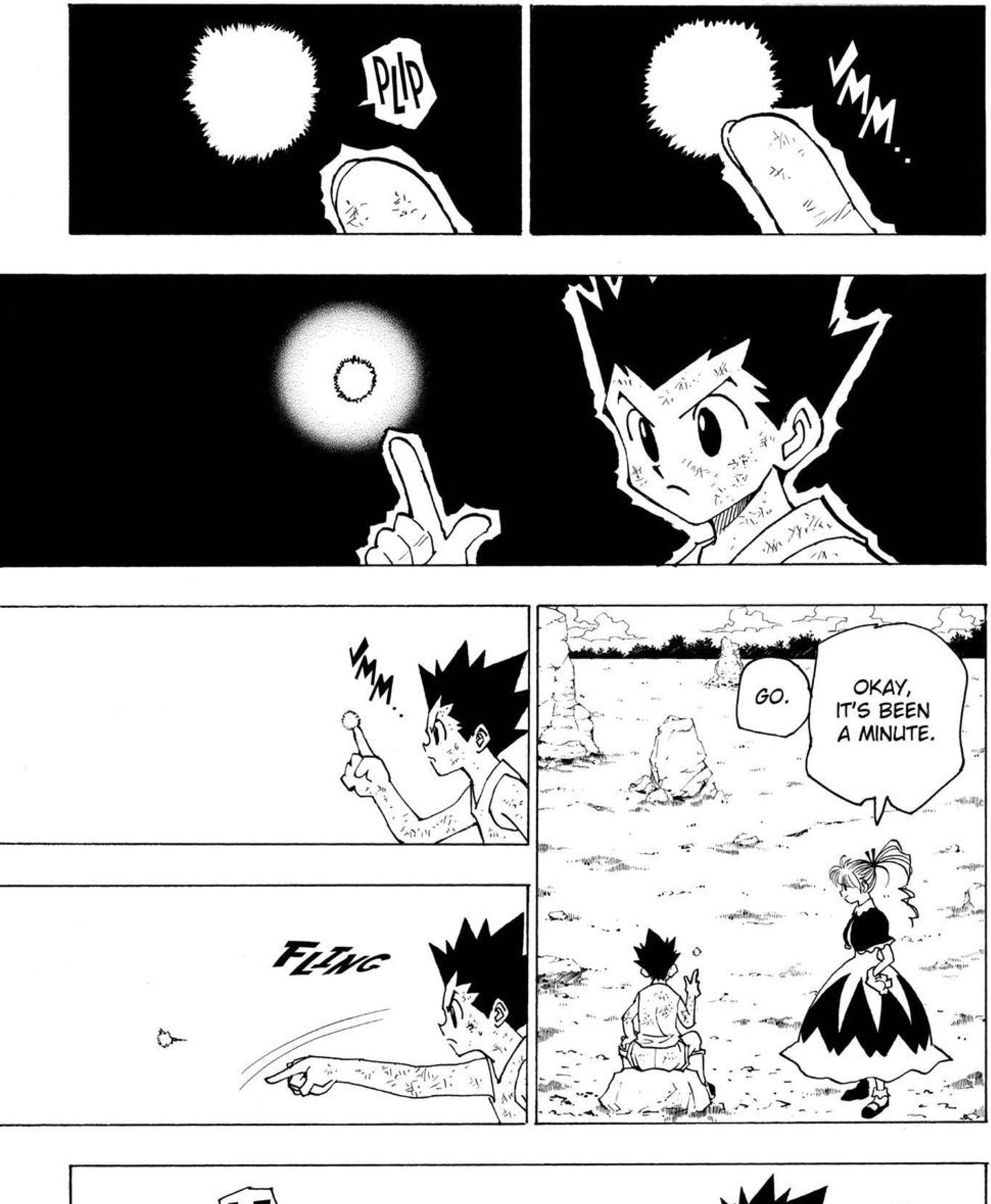

IF THERE ARE ANY THAT DON'T FIT, THEY'LL DISAPPEAR WHEN YOU LEAVE, SO MAKE SURE YOU DON'T BUY TOO MANY.
WE CAN'T ***FILL UP*** OUR SLOTS...
BUT THE MORE THE BETTER.

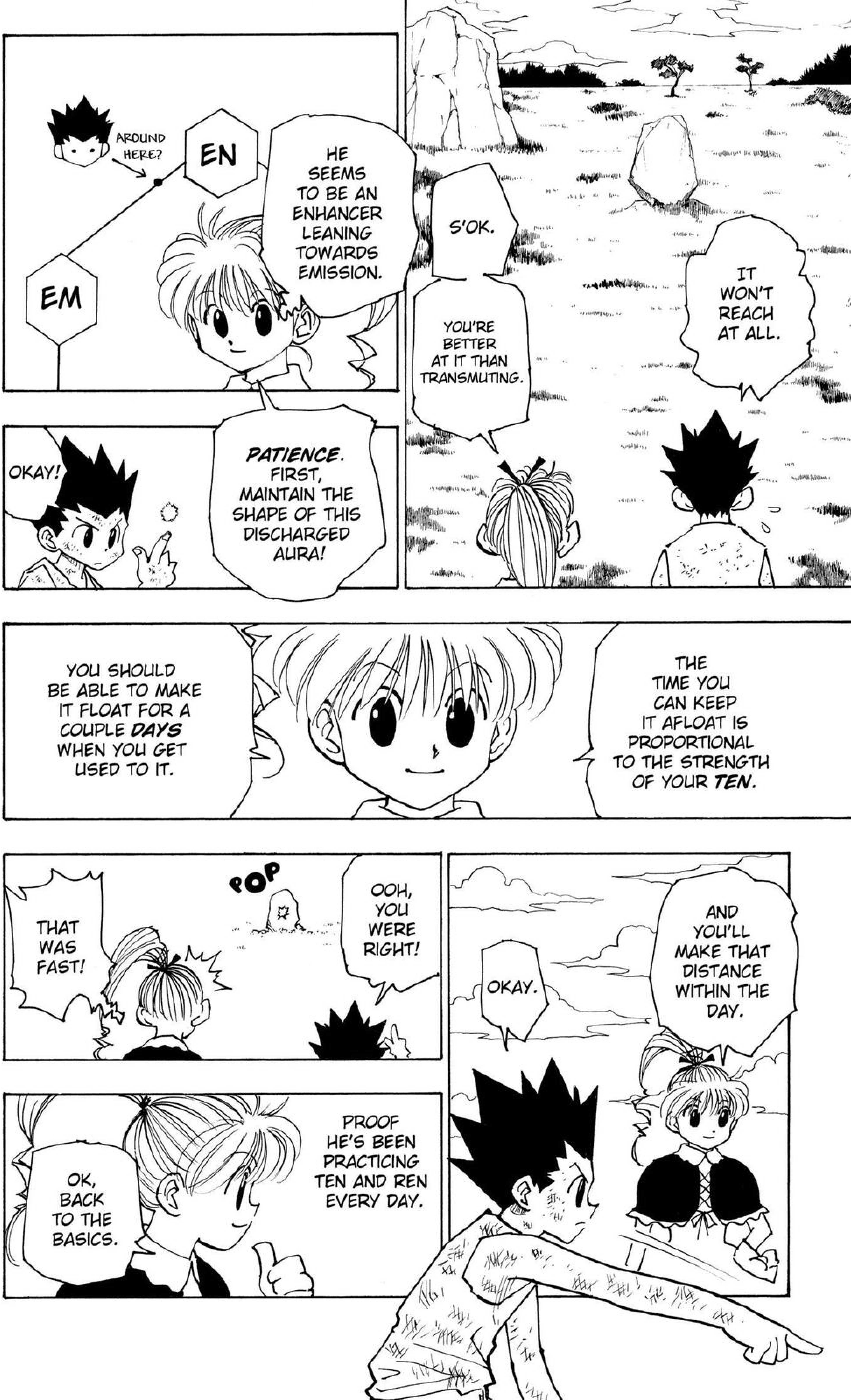

THEY BUY 60 SPELL CARDS BETWEEN THEM!!
PEEK X2
FLUOROSCOPY X2
DEFENSIVE WALL X8
REFLECT X3
MAGNETIC FORCE X1
RETURN X4
ORIGIN X1
LEAVE X2
CLAIRVOYANCE X1
DRIFT X1
COLLISION X1
DRAWBRIDGE X4
MUG X1
DISPEL X1
BLACKOUT CURTAIN
TRACE X1
GUIDEPOST X1
ANALYSIS X6
LOTTERY X4
FORTRESS X1
RECYCLE X1
LIST X5
ACCOMPANY X2
CONTACT X4
1035
Fortress
S-10
Protect all cards in the slots of one binder page against theft or destruction by spells, as long as they remain in their slots. (The page cannot be a Free Slot page.)
P
C


WHAT DO WE DO?! THIS CARD IS ULTRA-RARE, ISN'T IT?!
YUP.
RANK S, AND THERE ARE ONLY TEN OF THEM.
DO WE KEEP IT?! SHOULD WE USE IT NOW?! DON'T YOU KNOW MORE ABOUT VIDEO GAMES THAN ME?!
I DON'T!
I'VE NEVER PLAYED VIDEO GAMES BEFORE!!
NOT SO LOUD!! PEOPLE WILL GET SUSPICIOUS!!
PANIC
PST
PANIC
PST
LET'S ASK A TRADE SHOP FOR MORE INFORMATION!
ARGH...
IF ONLY KILLUA WERE HERE!
...
ACHOO!

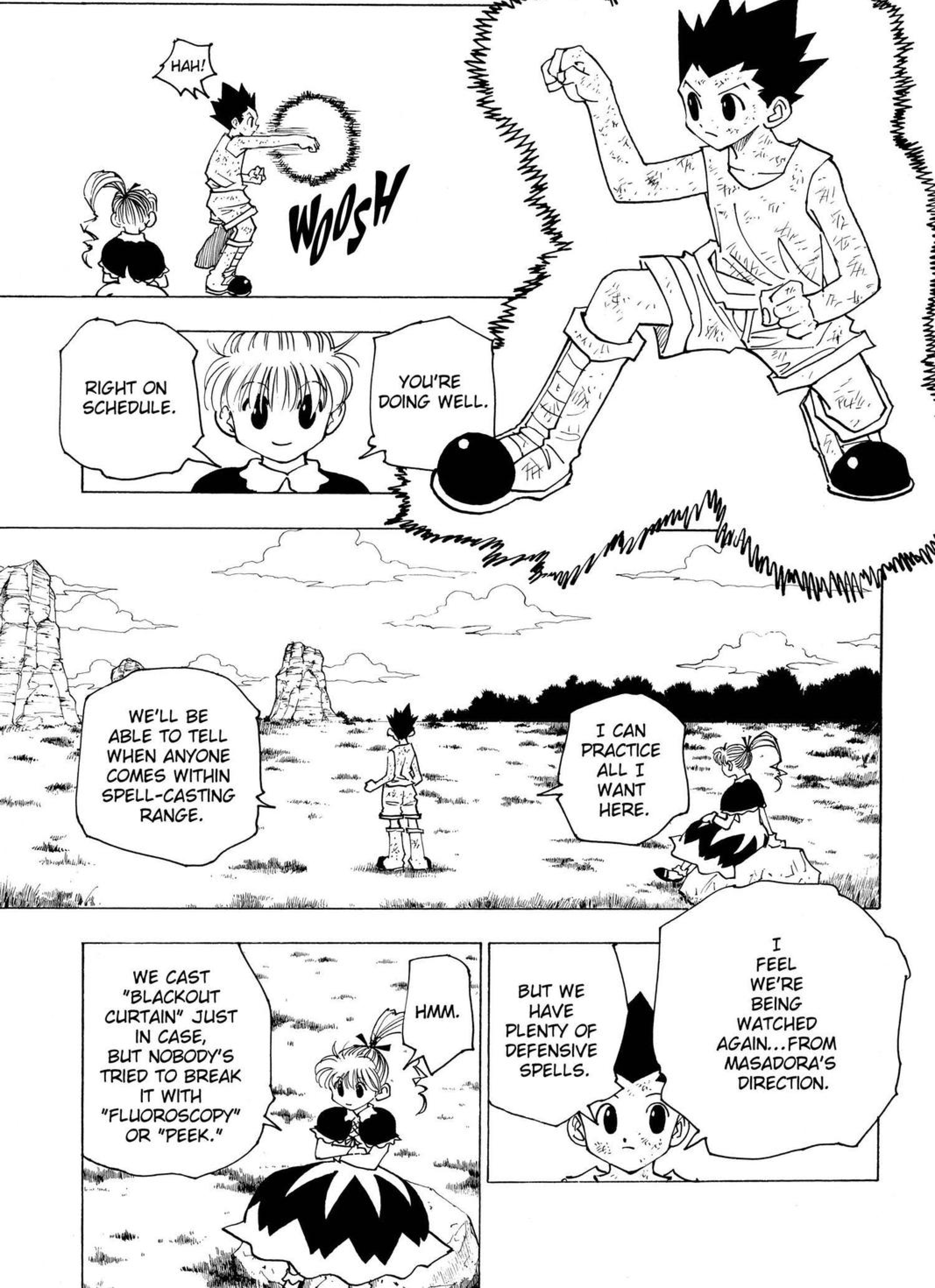


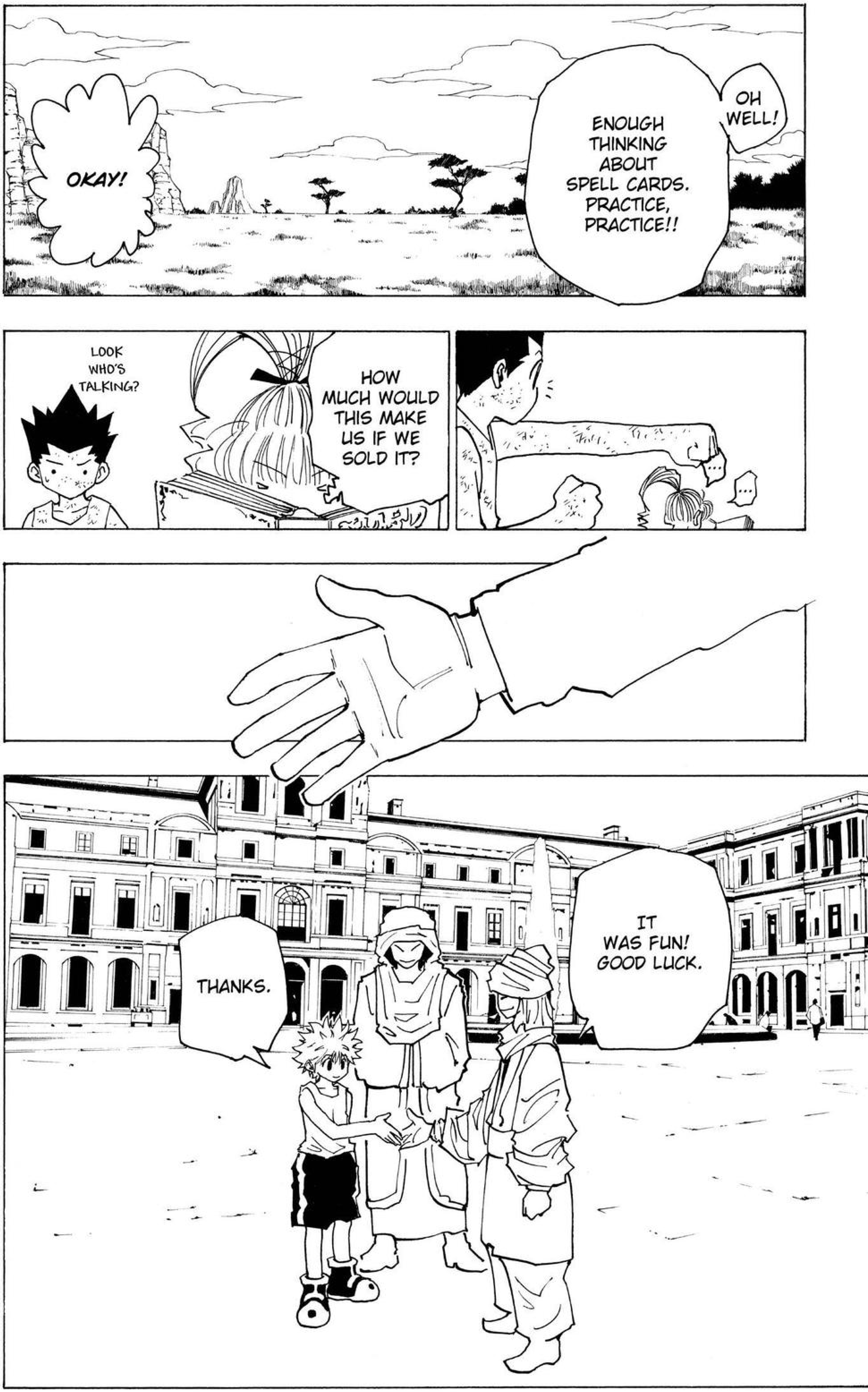
Chapter 148: The Exam Begins


JMM..
PLIP
OKAY, IT'S BEEN A MINUTE.
GO.
JMM..
FLING
OOPS!
FFT

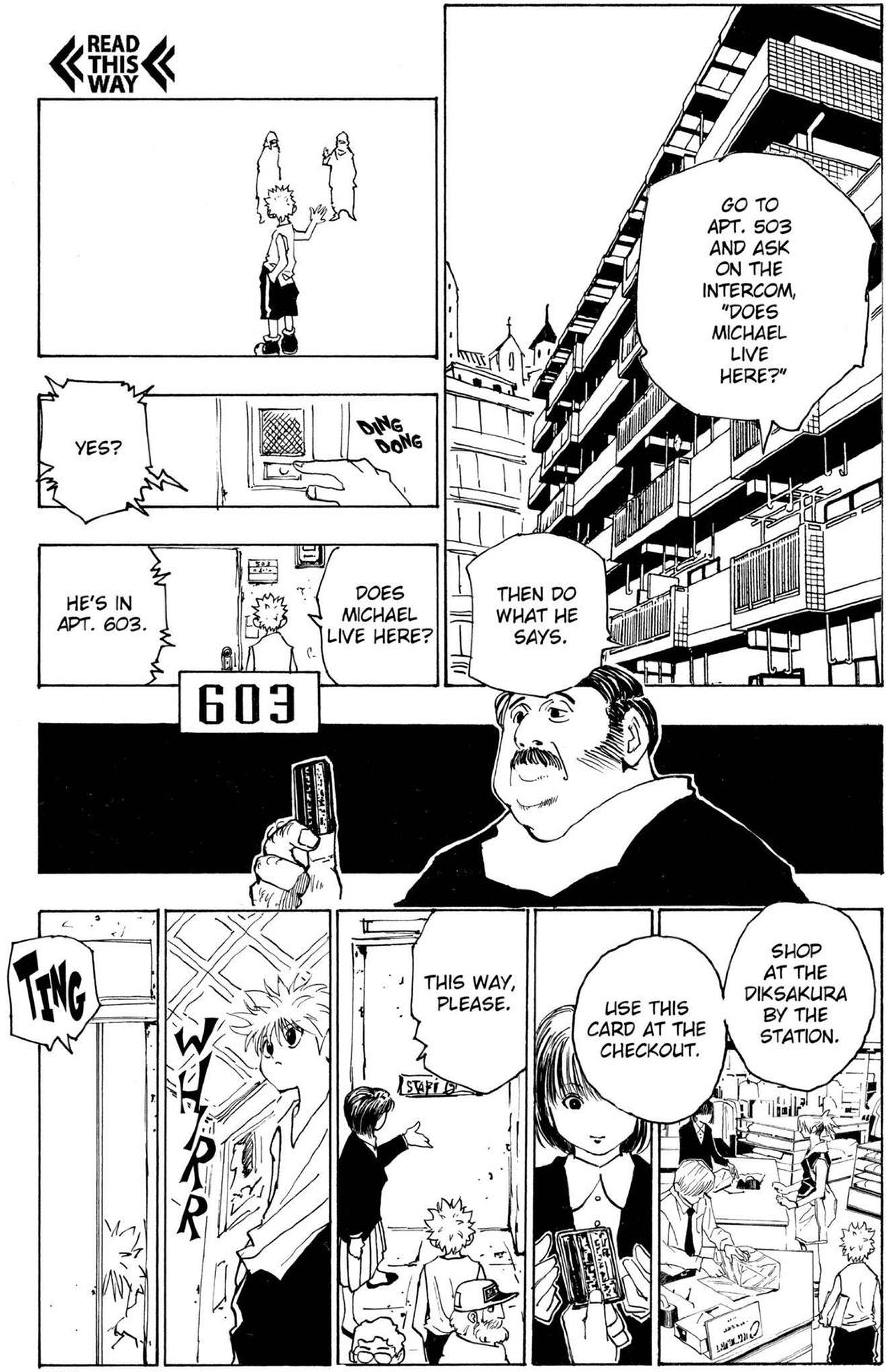

IT WON'T REACH AT ALL.
S'OK.
YOU'RE BETTER AT IT THAN TRANSMUTING.
HE SEEMS TO BE AN ENHANCER LEANING TOWARDS EMISSION.
EN
EM
AROUND HERE?
PATIENCE. FIRST, MAINTAIN THE SHAPE OF THIS DISCHARGED AURA!
OKAY!
THE TIME YOU CAN KEEP IT AFLOAT IS PROPORTIONAL TO THE STRENGTH OF YOUR *TEN*.
YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO MAKE IT FLOAT FOR A COUPLE *DAYS* WHEN YOU GET USED TO IT.
AND YOU'LL MAKE THAT DISTANCE WITHIN THE DAY.
OKAY.
OOH, YOU WERE RIGHT!
POP
THAT WAS FAST!
PROOF HE'S BEEN PRACTICING TEN AND REN EVERY DAY.
OK, BACK TO THE BASICS.

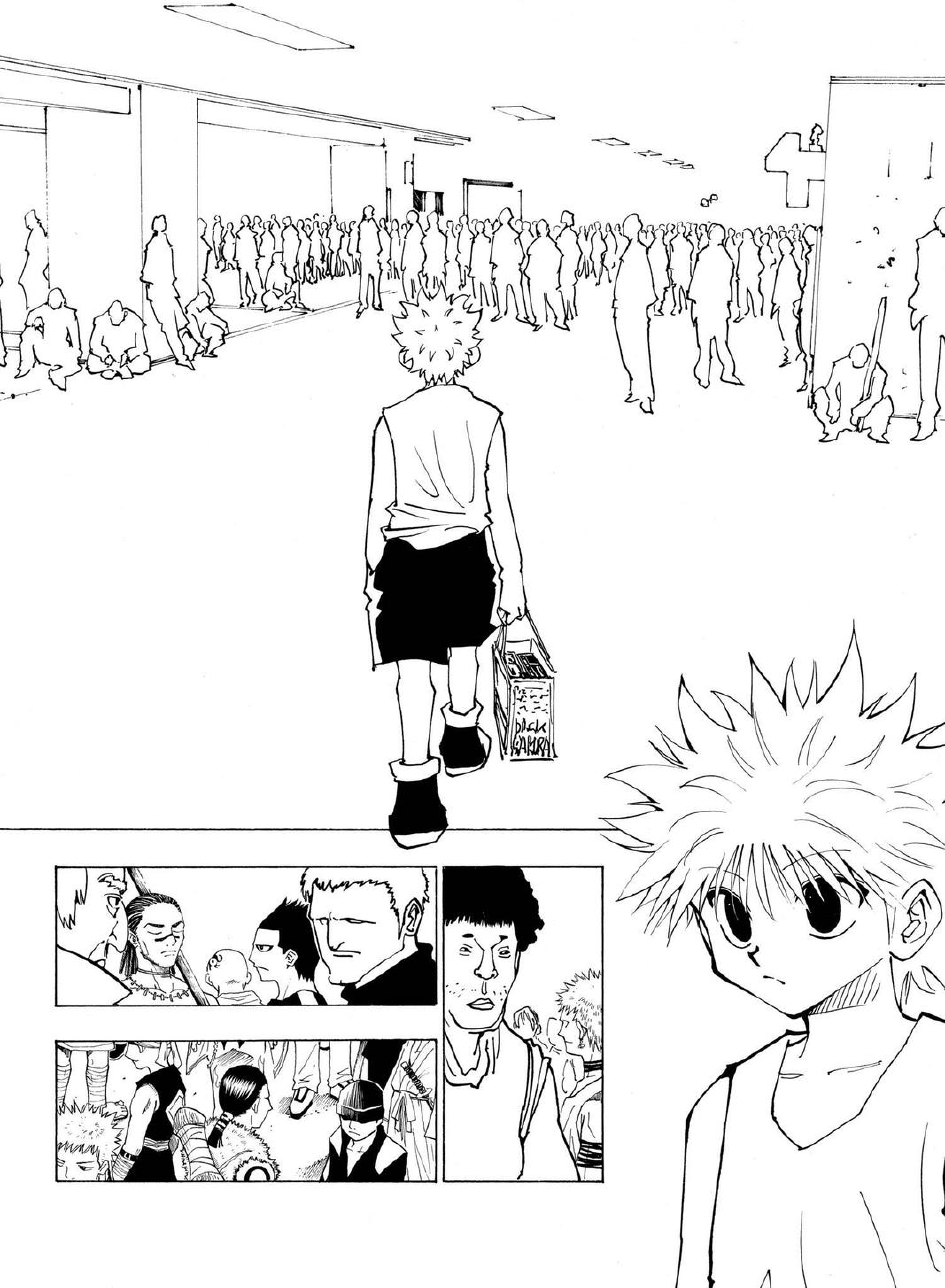
READ THIS WAY


HAH!
WOOSH
YOU'RE DOING WELL.
RIGHT ON SCHEDULE.
I CAN PRACTICE ALL I WANT HERE.
WE'LL BE ABLE TO TELL WHEN ANYONE COMES WITHIN SPELL-CASTING RANGE.
I FEEL WE'RE BEING WATCHED AGAIN...FROM MASADORA'S DIRECTION.
BUT WE HAVE PLENTY OF DEFENSIVE SPELLS.
HMM.
WE CAST "BLACKOUT CURTAIN" JUST IN CASE, BUT NOBODY'S TRIED TO BREAK IT WITH "FLUOROSCOPY" OR "PEEK."

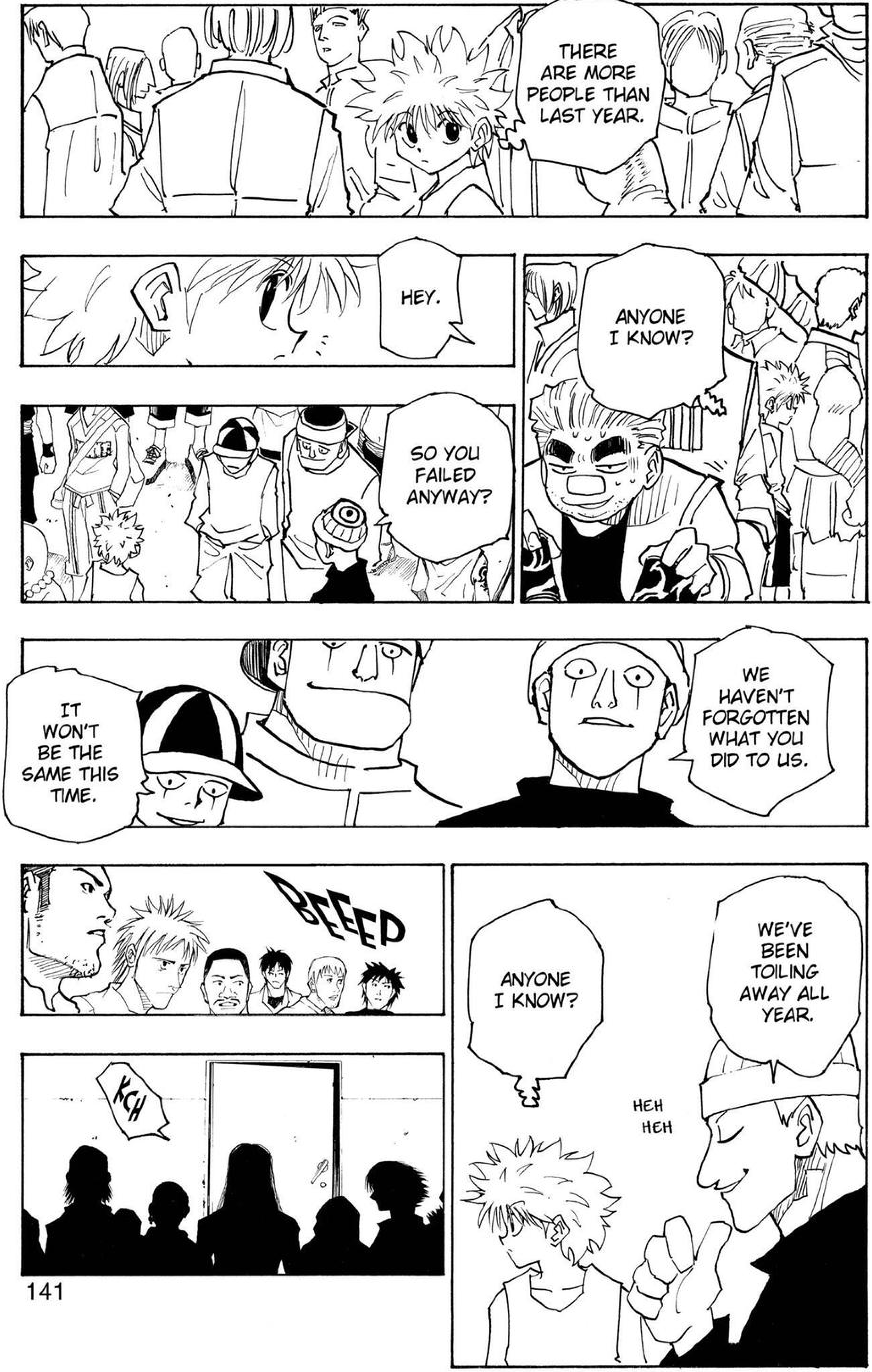

OH WELL!
ENOUGH THINKING ABOUT SPELL CARDS. PRACTICE, PRACTICE!!
OKAY!
...
...
HOW MUCH WOULD THIS MAKE US IF WE SOLD IT?
LOOK WHO'S TALKING?
IT WAS FUN! GOOD LUCK.
THANKS.

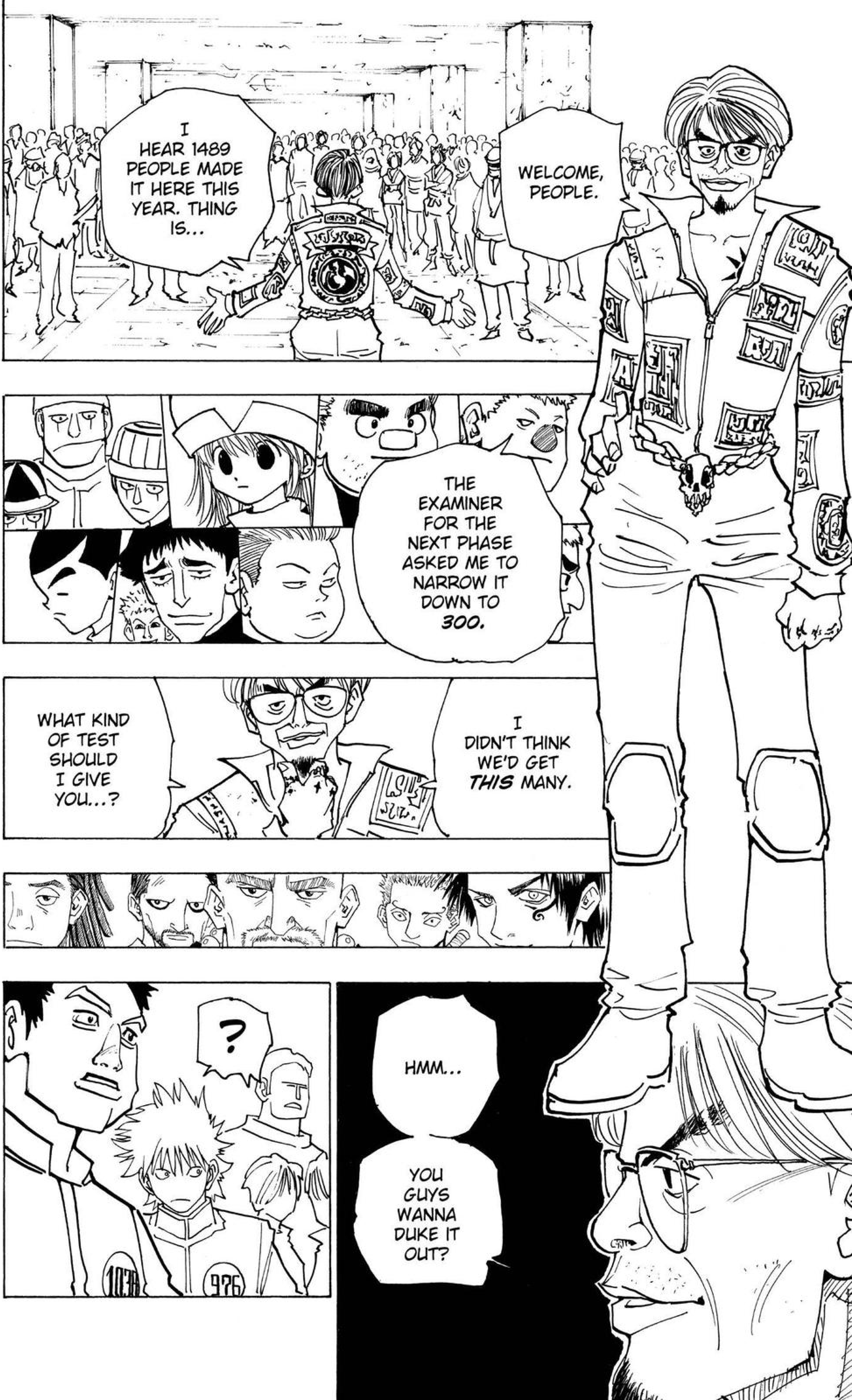
READ THIS WAY

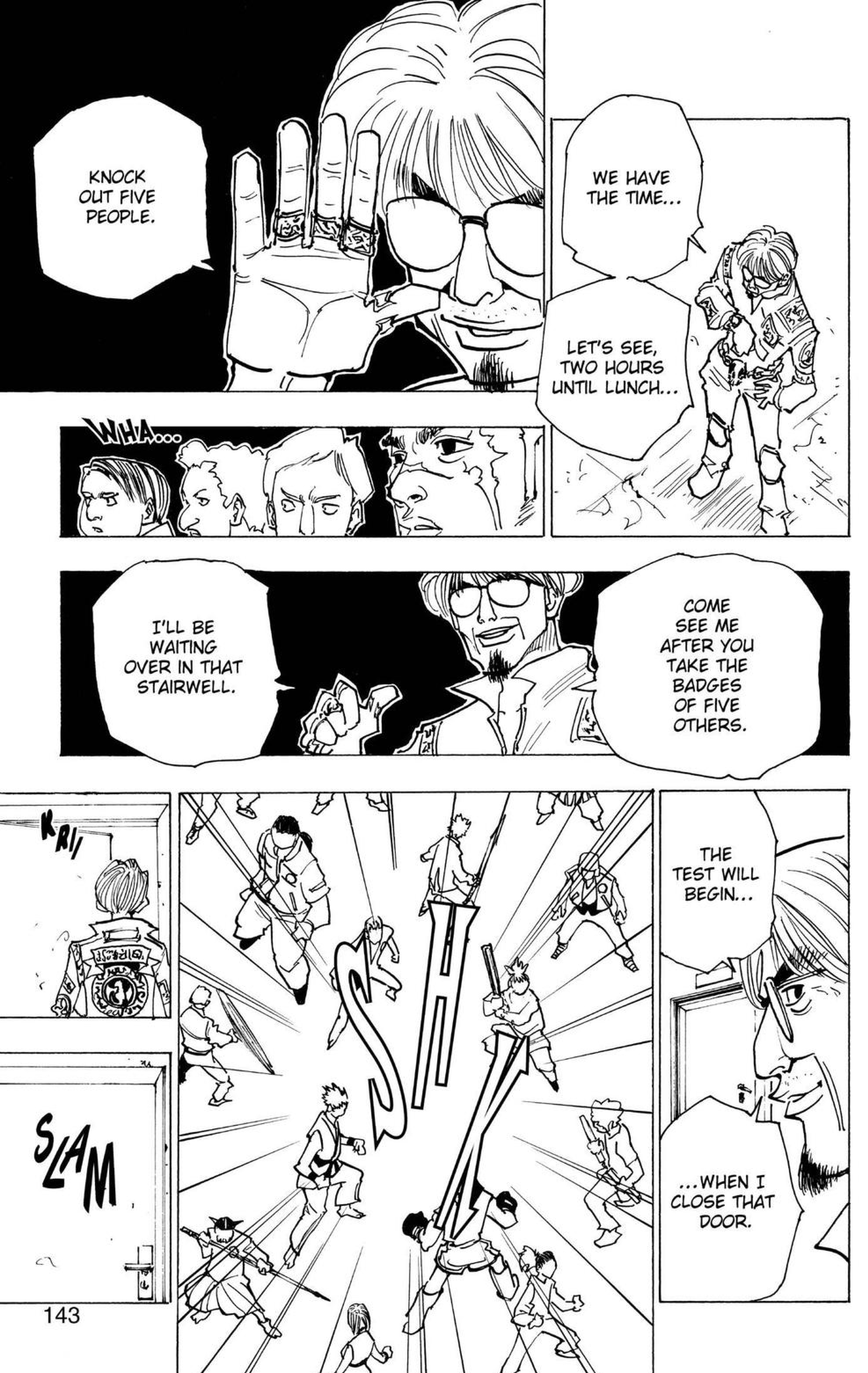

GO TO APT. 503 AND ASK ON THE INTERCOM, "DOES MICHAEL LIVE HERE?"
THEN DO WHAT HE SAYS.
DING DONG
YES?
DOES MICHAEL LIVE HERE?
HE'S IN APT. 603.
603
SHOP AT THE DIKSAKURA BY THE STATION.
USE THIS CARD AT THE CHECKOUT.
THIS WAY, PLEASE.
STAFF
WHIRR
TING

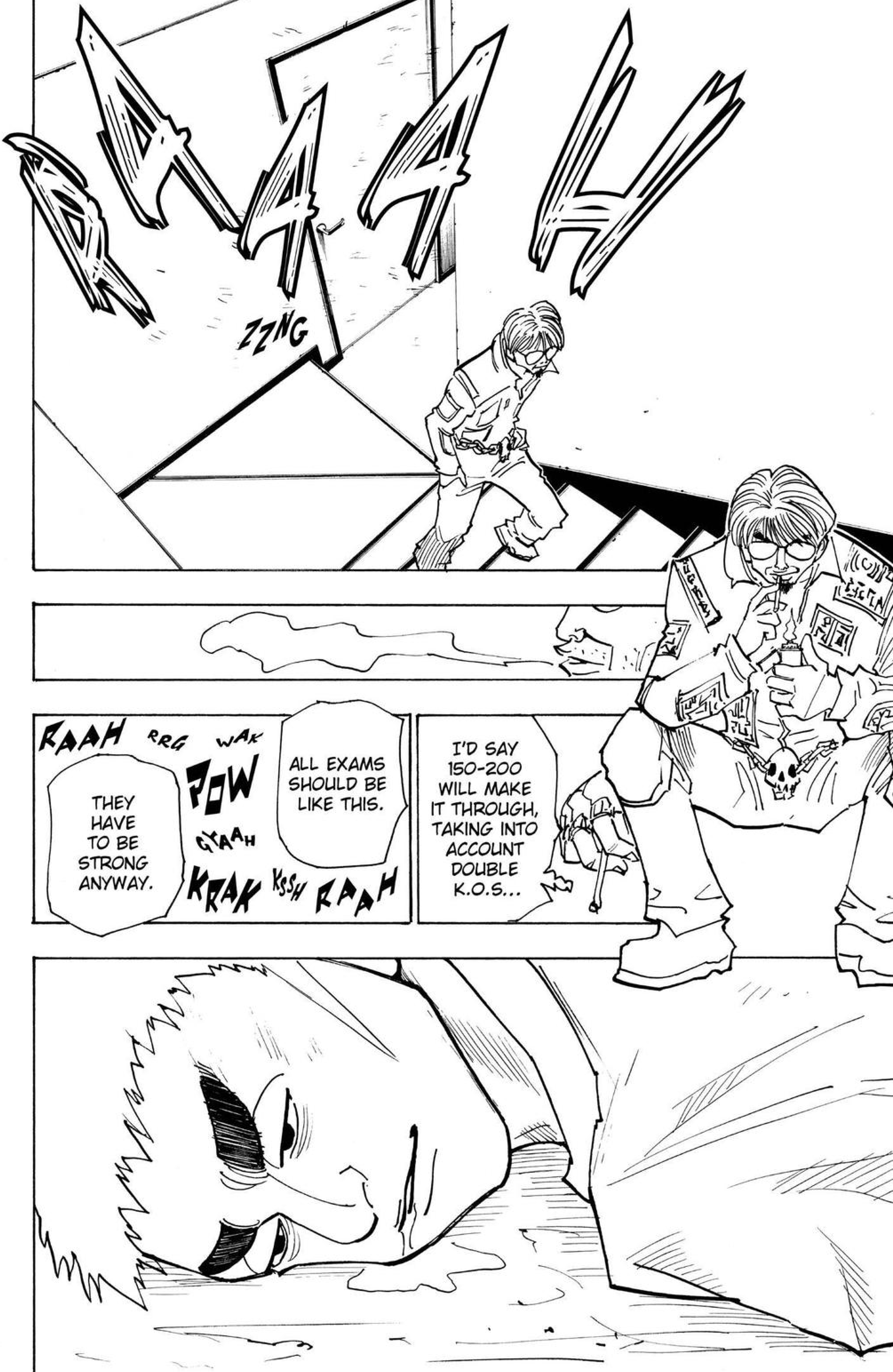

black SAKURA

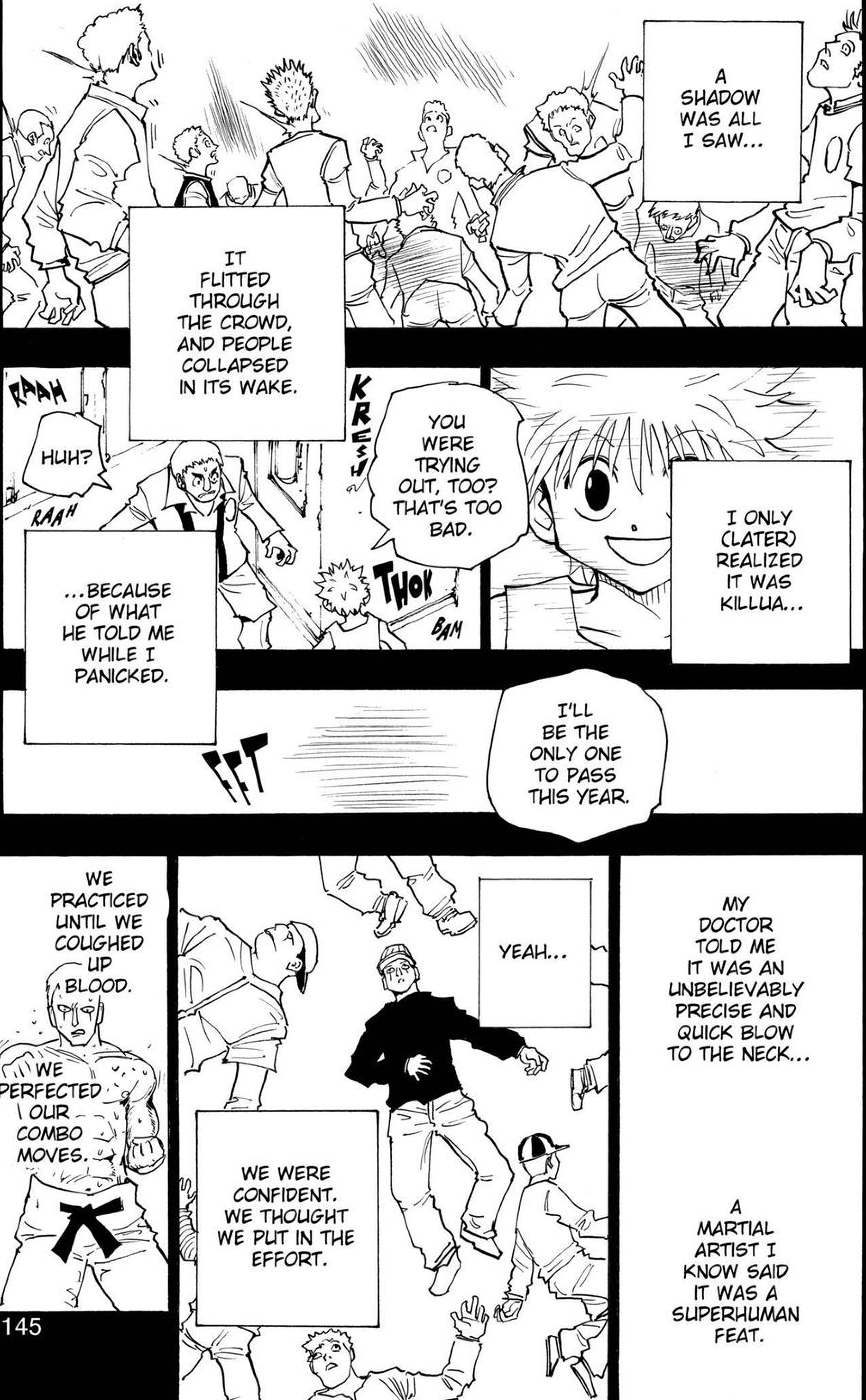
READ THIS WAY

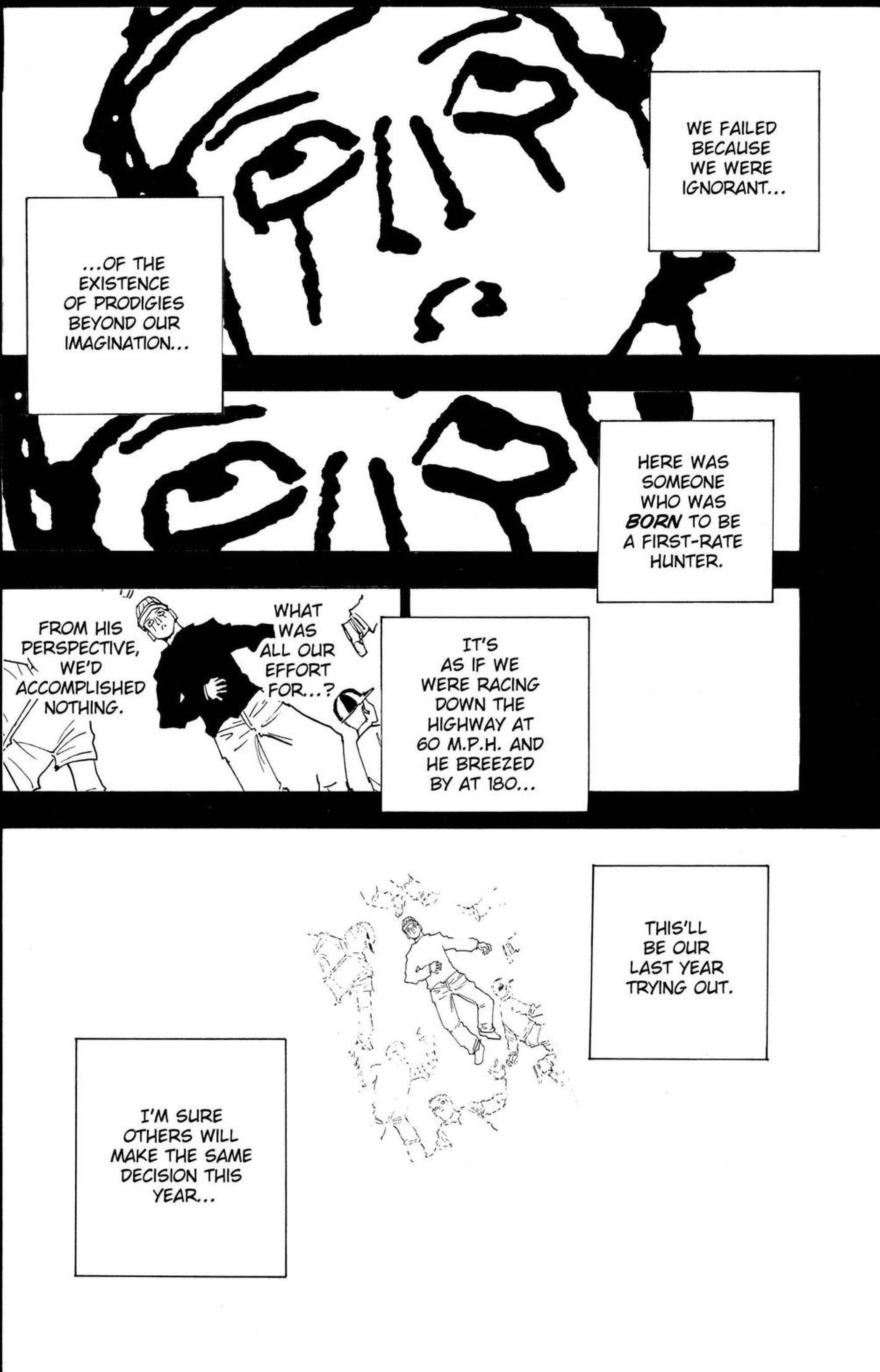

THERE ARE MORE PEOPLE THAN LAST YEAR.
ANYONE I KNOW?
HEY.
SO YOU FAILED ANYWAY?
WE HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN WHAT YOU DID TO US.
IT WON'T BE THE SAME THIS TIME.
WE'VE BEEN TOILING AWAY ALL YEAR.
HEH HEH
ANYONE I KNOW?
BEEEP
KCH

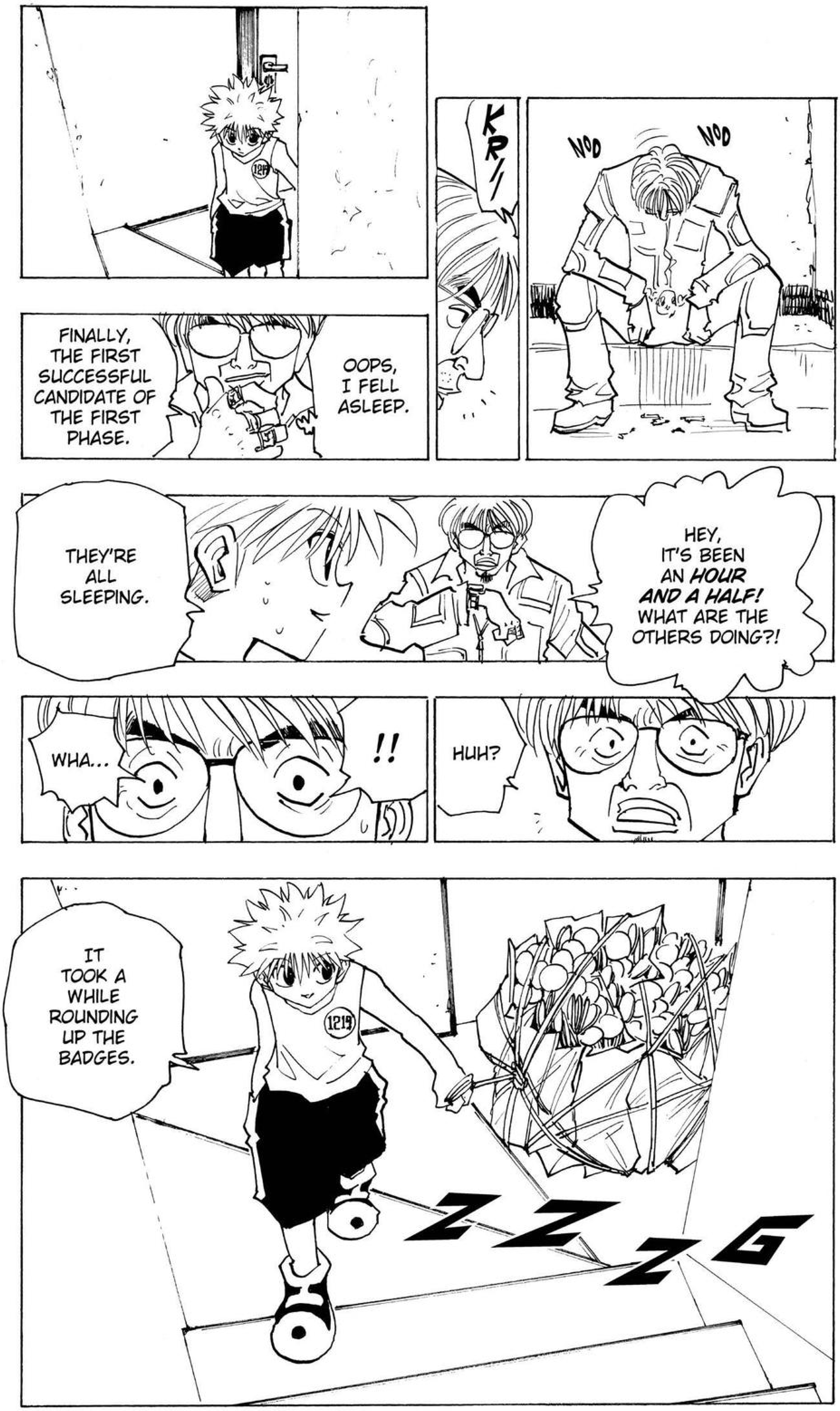

WELCOME, PEOPLE.
I HEAR 1489 PEOPLE MADE IT HERE THIS YEAR. THING IS...
THE EXAMINER FOR THE NEXT PHASE ASKED ME TO NARROW IT DOWN TO *300.*
I DIDN'T THINK WE'D GET *THIS* MANY.
WHAT KIND OF TEST SHOULD I GIVE YOU...?
HMM...
YOU GUYS WANNA DUKE IT OUT?
?
1036
976

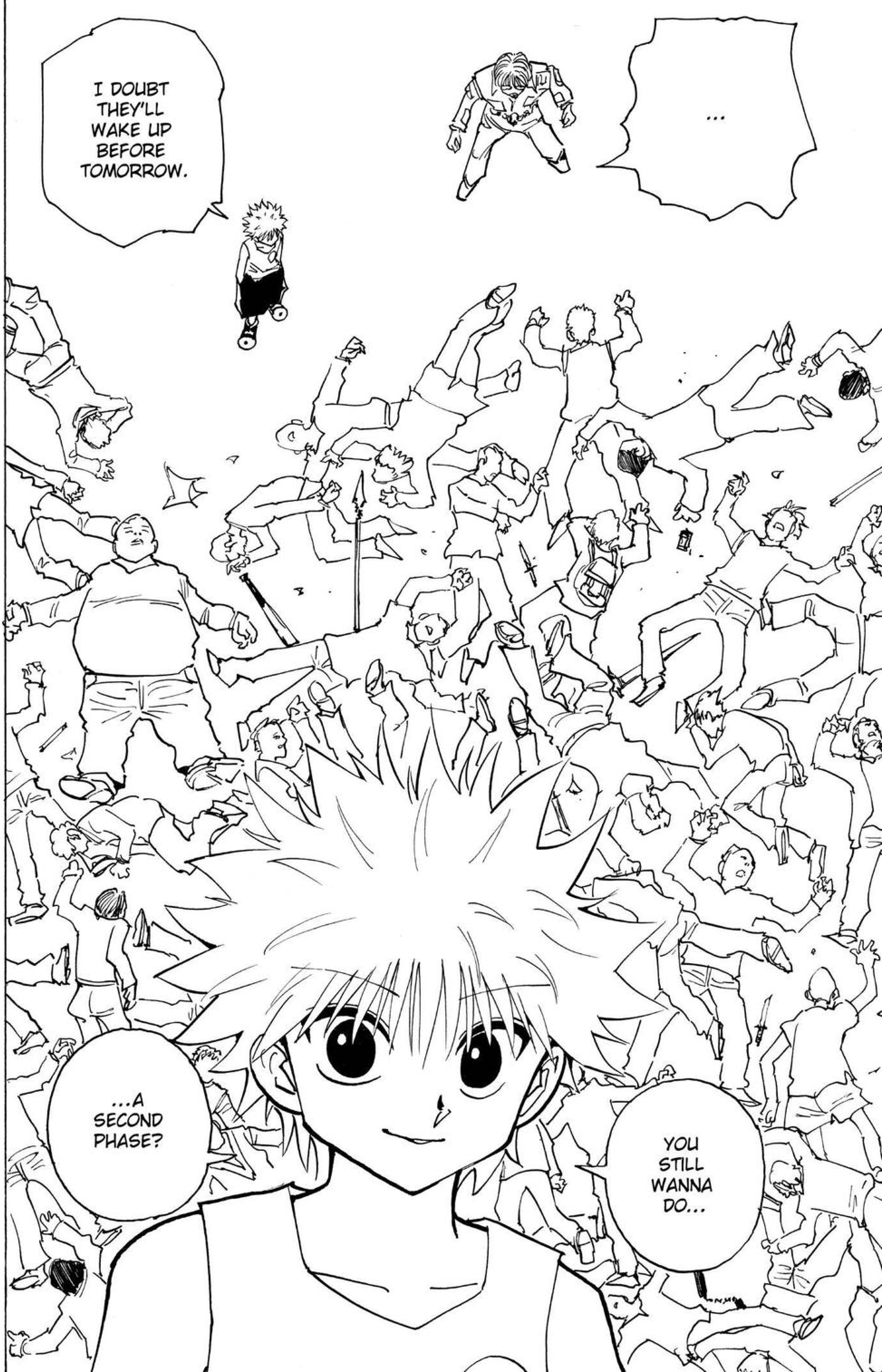

WE HAVE THE TIME...
LET'S SEE, TWO HOURS UNTIL LUNCH...
KNOCK OUT FIVE PEOPLE.
WHA...
COME SEE ME AFTER YOU TAKE THE BADGES OF FIVE OTHERS.
I'LL BE WAITING OVER IN THAT STAIRWELL.
THE TEST WILL BEGIN...
...WHEN I CLOSE THAT DOOR.
SHH
KRII
SLAM

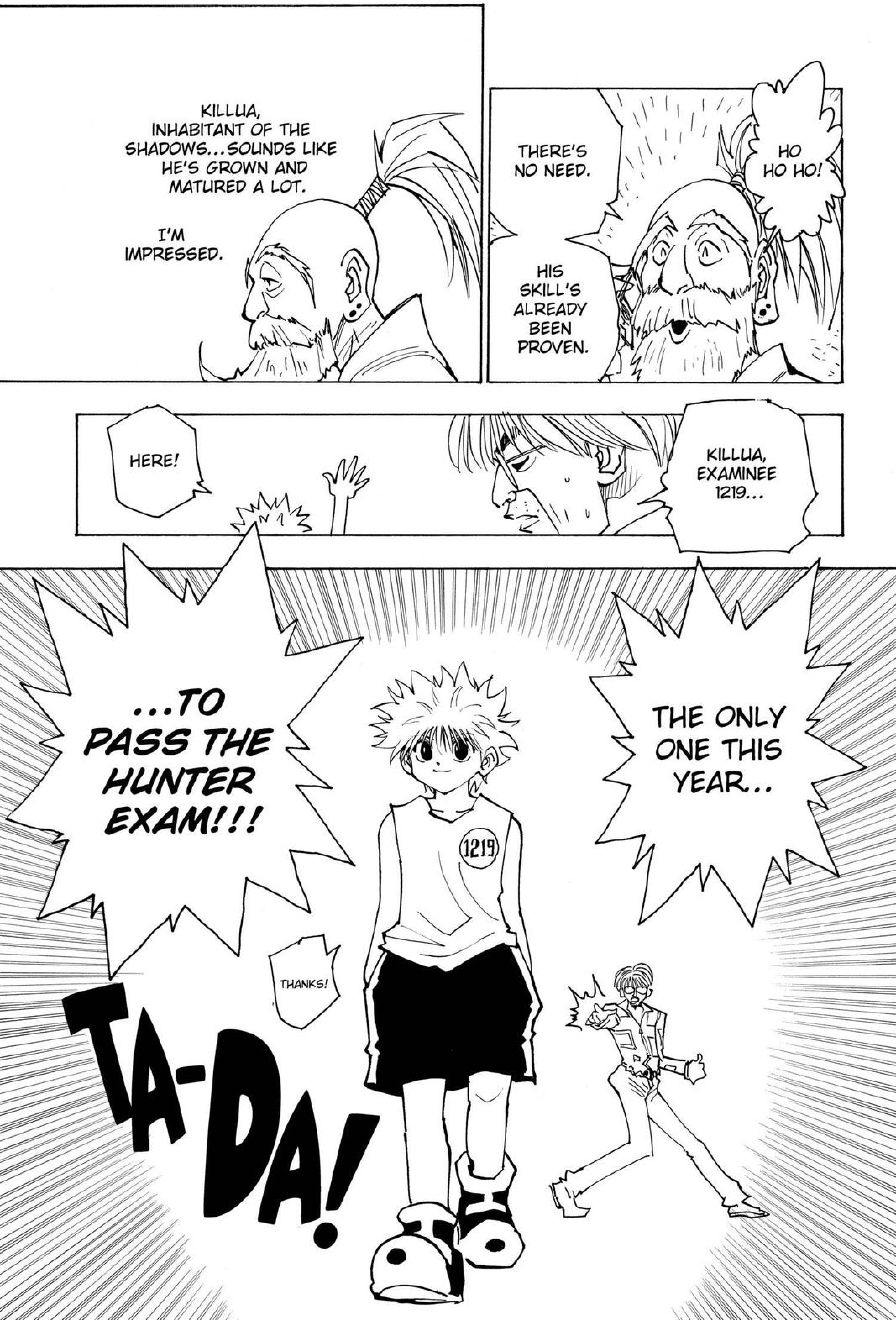

RAAAH
ZZNG
I'D SAY 150-200 WILL MAKE IT THROUGH, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT DOUBLE K.O.S...
ALL EXAMS SHOULD BE LIKE THIS.
WAK
RRG
RAAH
POW
GYAAAH
KRAK
KSSH
RAAH
THEY HAVE TO BE STRONG ANYWAY.


A SHADOW WAS ALL I SAW...
IT FLITTED THROUGH THE CROWD, AND PEOPLE COLLAPSED IN ITS WAKE.
I ONLY (LATER) REALIZED IT WAS KILLUA...
KRESH
YOU WERE TRYING OUT, TOO? THAT'S TOO BAD.
RAAH
HUH?
RAAH
THOK
BAM
...BECAUSE OF WHAT HE TOLD ME WHILE I PANICKED.
I'LL BE THE ONLY ONE TO PASS THIS YEAR.
FFT
MY DOCTOR TOLD ME IT WAS AN UNBELIEVABLY PRECISE AND QUICK BLOW TO THE NECK...
A MARTIAL ARTIST I KNOW SAID IT WAS A SUPERHUMAN FEAT.
YEAH...
WE WERE CONFIDENT. WE THOUGHT WE PUT IN THE EFFORT.
WE PRACTICED UNTIL WE COUGHED UP BLOOD.
WE PERFECTED OUR COMBO MOVES.

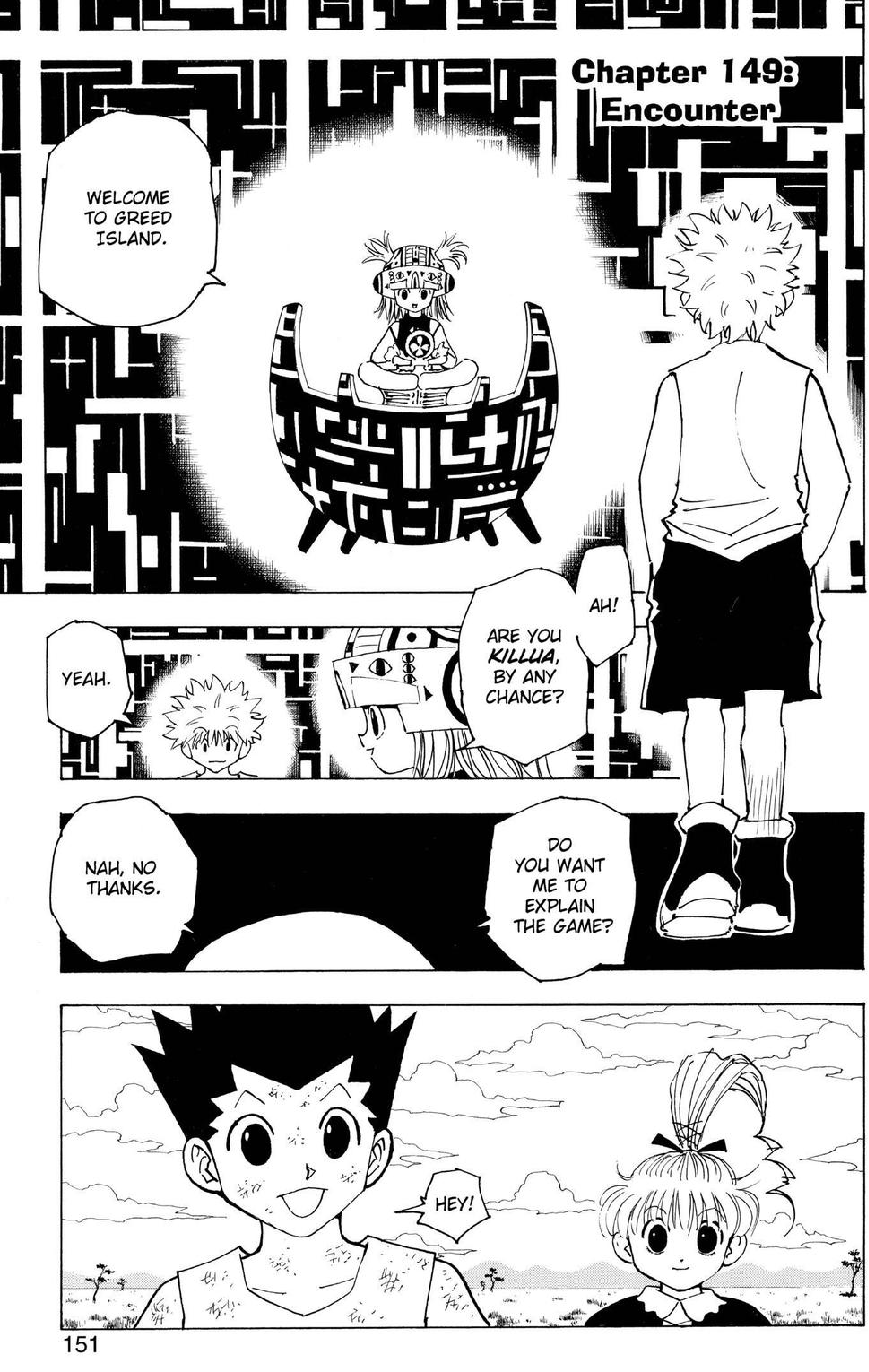

WE FAILED BECAUSE WE WERE IGNORANT...
...OF THE EXISTENCE OF PRODIGIES BEYOND OUR IMAGINATION...
HERE WAS SOMEONE WHO WAS ***BORN*** TO BE A FIRST-RATE HUNTER.
FROM HIS PERSPECTIVE, WE'D ACCOMPLISHED NOTHING.
WHAT WAS ALL OUR EFFORT FOR...?
IT'S AS IF WE WERE RACING DOWN THE HIGHWAY AT 60 M.P.H. AND HE BREEZED BY AT 180...
THIS'LL BE OUR LAST YEAR TRYING OUT.
I'M SURE OTHERS WILL MAKE THE SAME DECISION THIS YEAR...

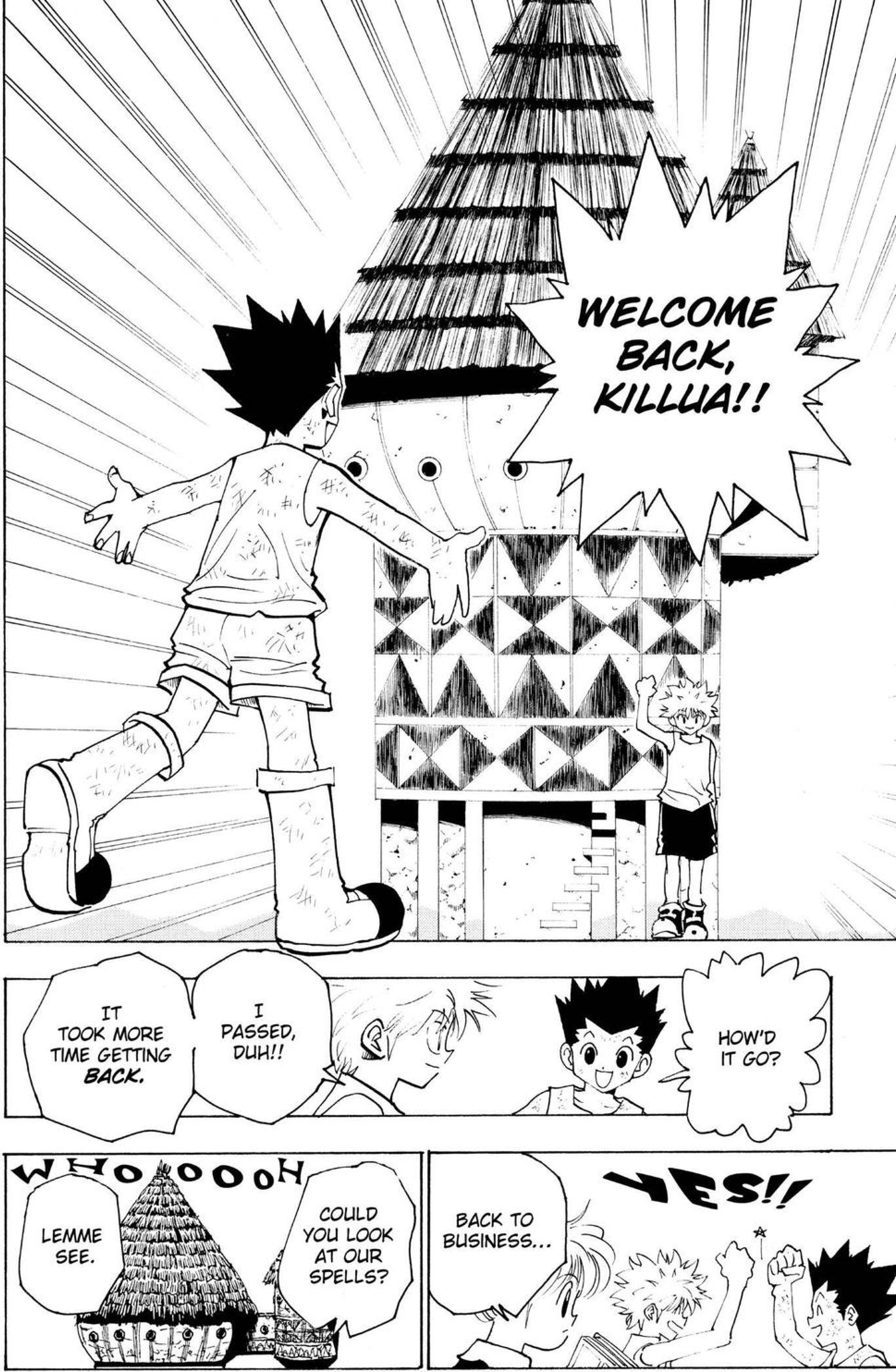

NOD NOD
KRI
OOPS, I FELL ASLEEP.
FINALLY, THE FIRST SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATE OF THE FIRST PHASE.
HEY, IT'S BEEN AN ***HOUR AND A HALF!*** WHAT ARE THE OTHERS DOING?!
THEY'RE ALL SLEEPING.
HUH?
!!
WHA...
IT TOOK A WHILE ROUNDING UP THE BADGES.
ZZZG

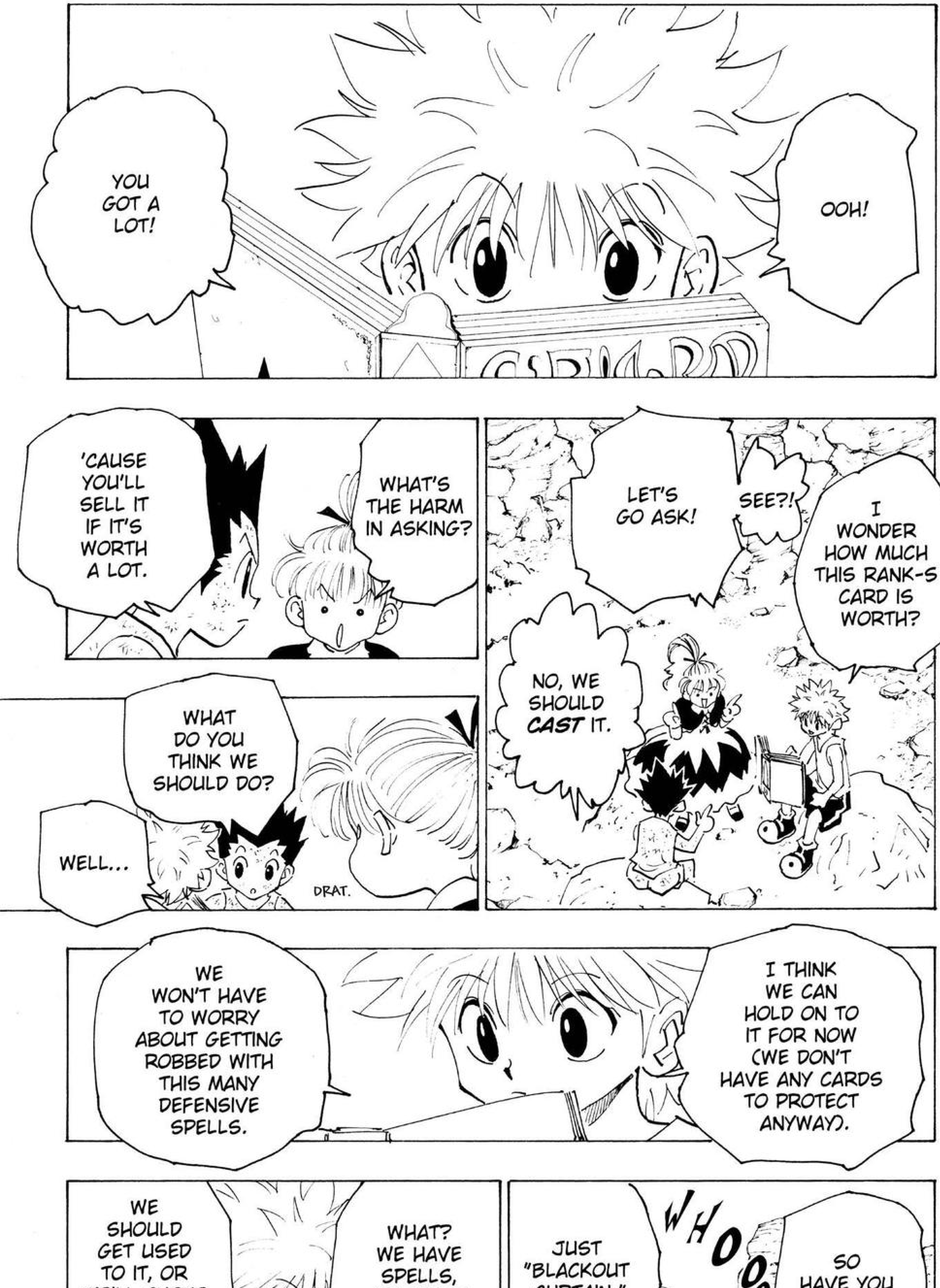

...
I DOUBT THEY'LL WAKE UP BEFORE TOMORROW.
YOU STILL WANNA DO...
...A SECOND PHASE?

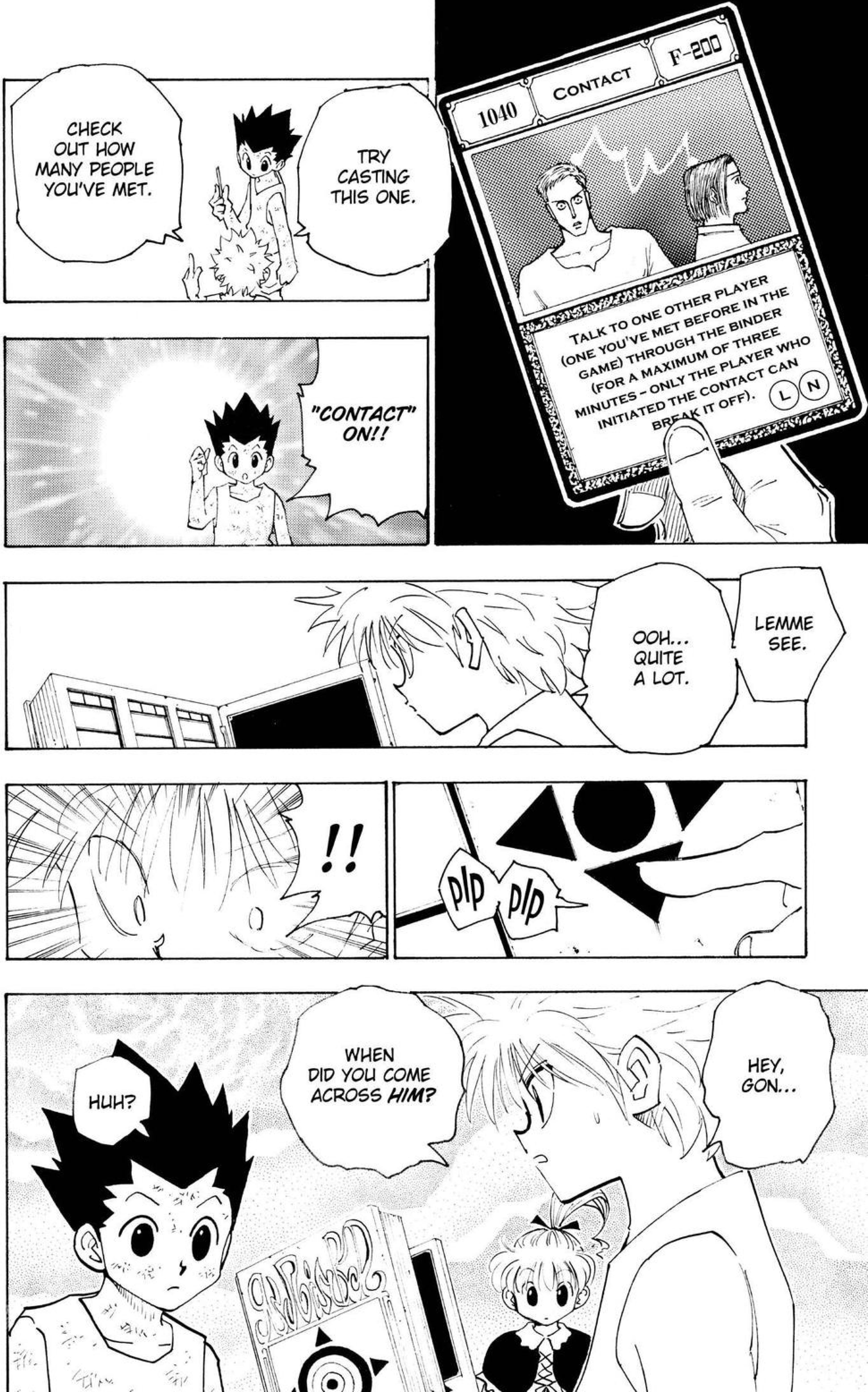

KILLUA, INHABITANT OF THE SHADOWS...SOUNDS LIKE HE'S GROWN AND MATURED A LOT.
I'M IMPRESSED.
HO HO HO!
THERE'S NO NEED.
HIS SKILL'S ALREADY BEEN PROVEN.
KILLUA, EXAMINEE 1219...
HERE!
THE ONLY ONE THIS YEAR...
...TO PASS THE HUNTER EXAM!!!
1219
THANKS!
TA-DA!

Chapter 149: Encounter

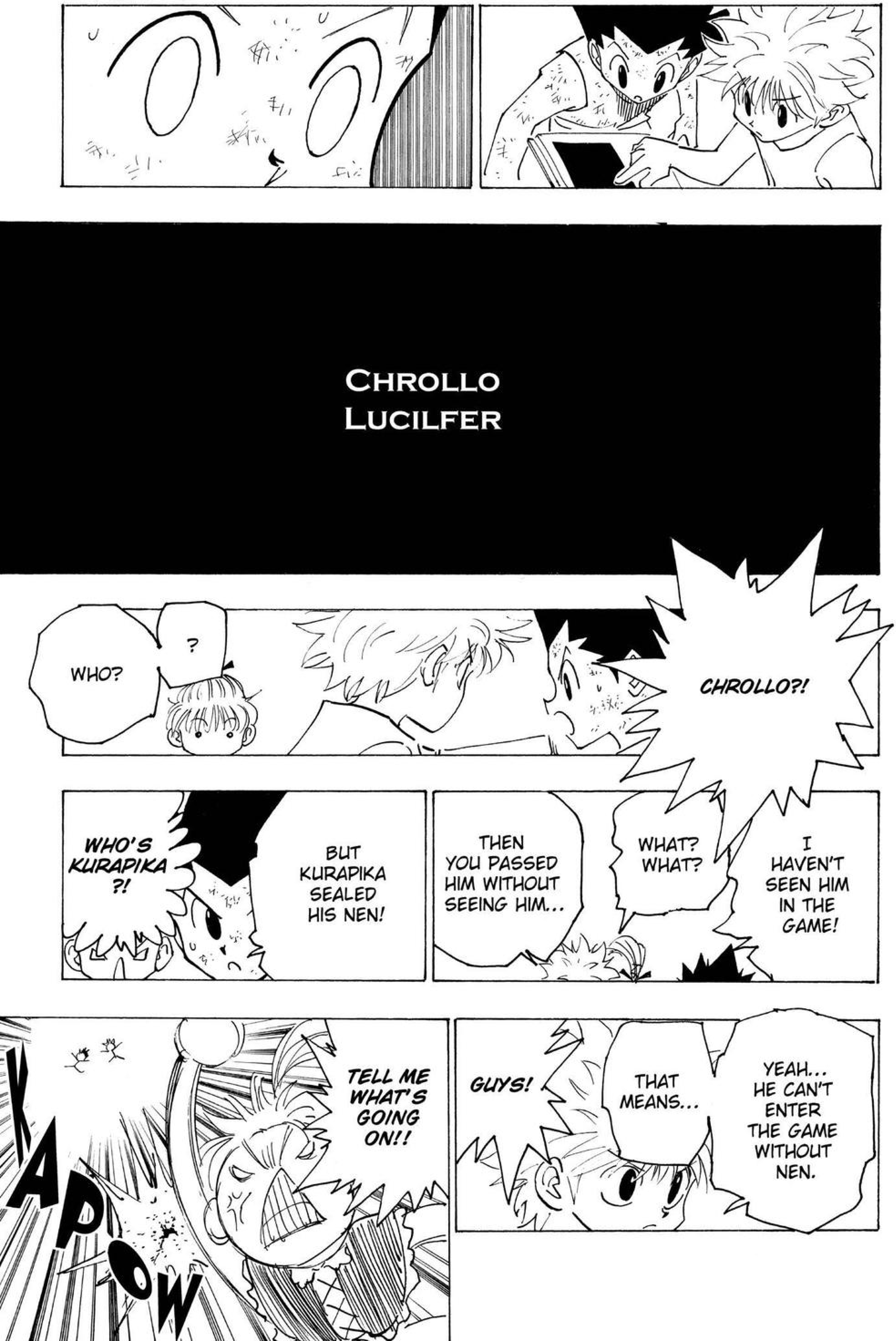

WELCOME TO GREED ISLAND.
AH!
ARE YOU *KILLUA*, BY ANY CHANCE?
YEAH.
DO YOU WANT ME TO EXPLAIN THE GAME?
NAH, NO THANKS.
HEY!

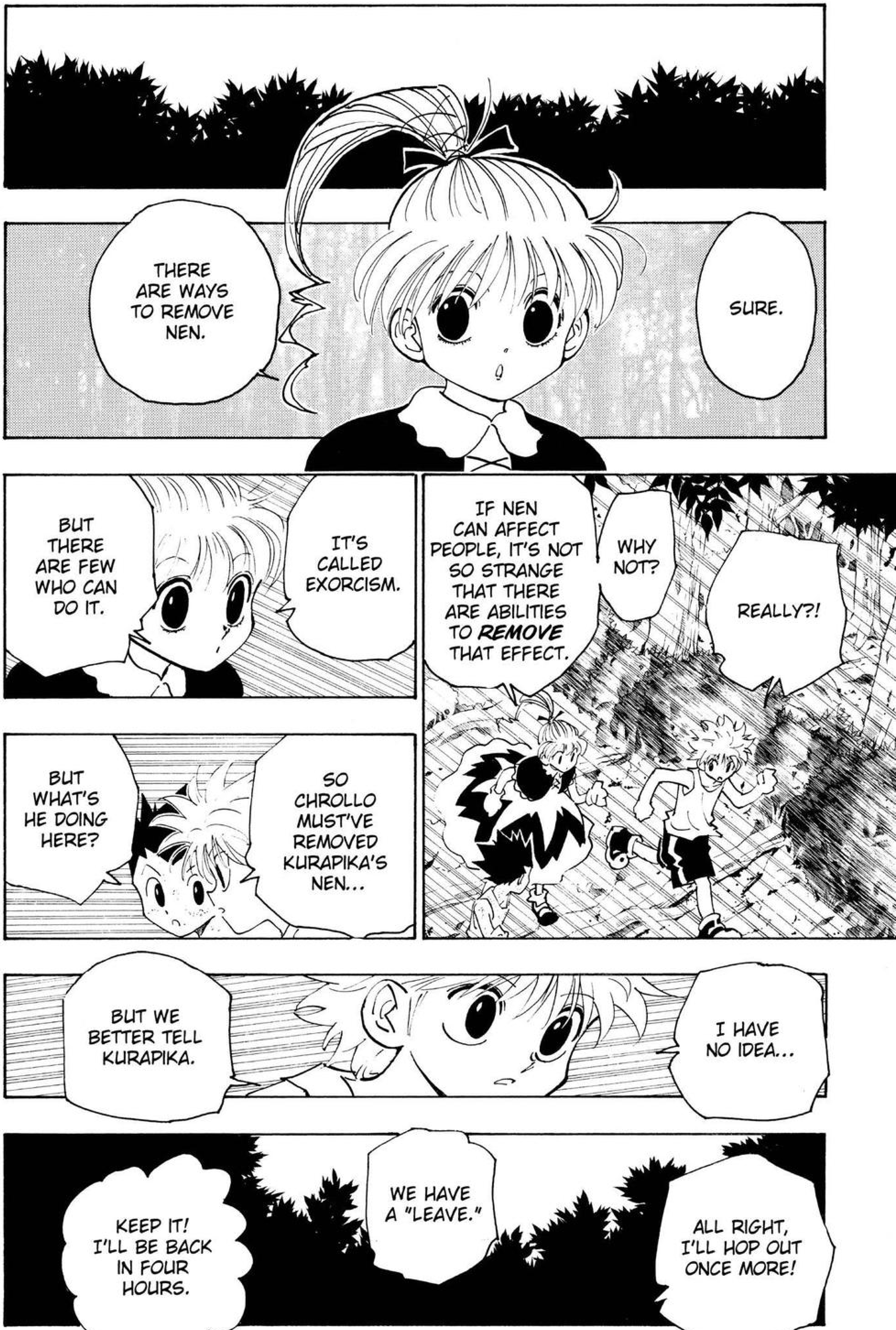

WELCOME BACK, KILLUA!!
HOW'D IT GO?
I PASSED, DUH!!
IT TOOK MORE TIME GETTING BACK.
YES!!
BACK TO BUSINESS...
COULD YOU LOOK AT OUR SPELLS?
LEMME SEE.
WHOOOOOH

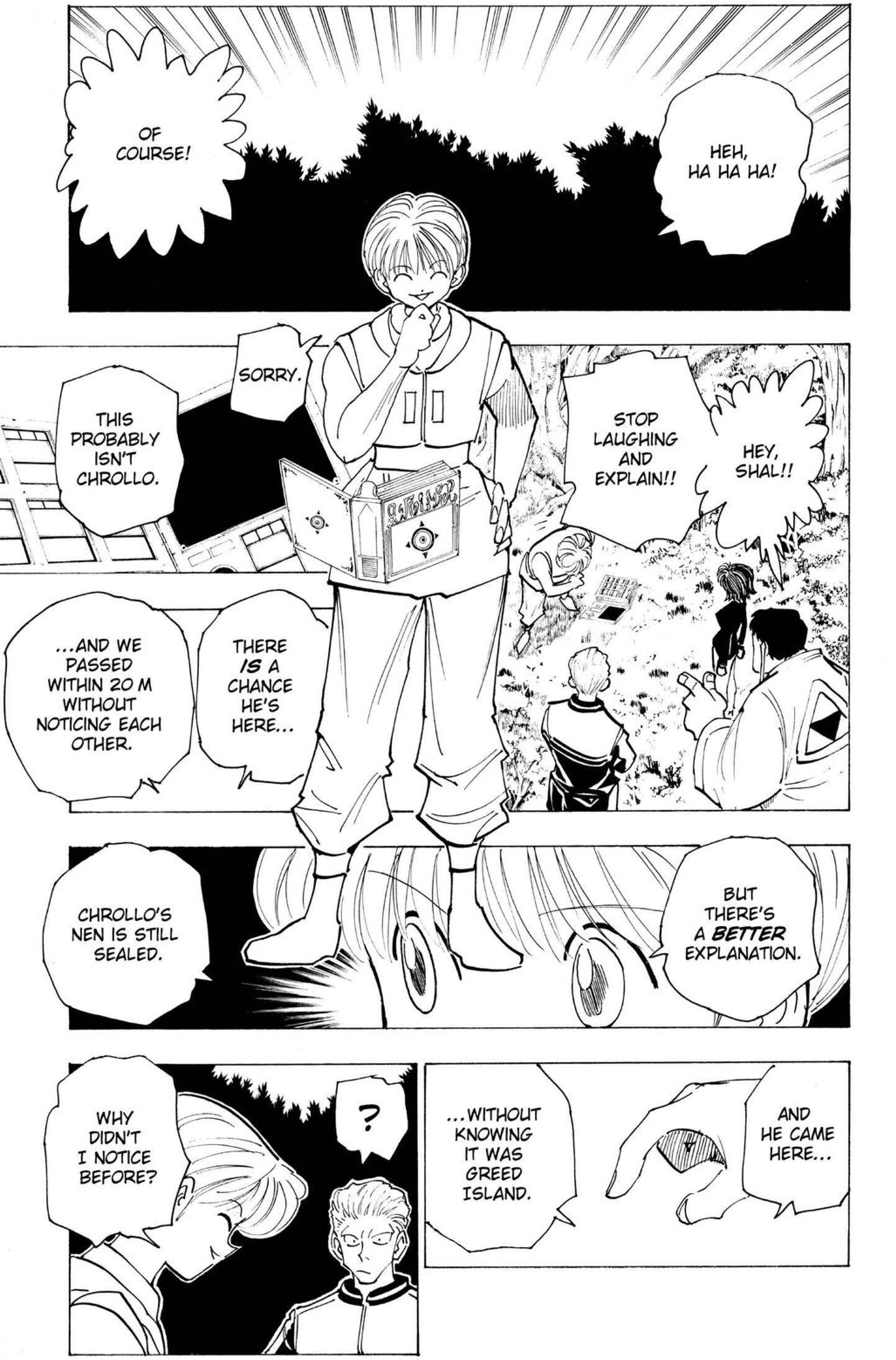

OOH!
YOU GOT A LOT!
I WONDER HOW MUCH THIS RANK-S CARD IS WORTH?
SEE?!
LET'S GO ASK!
NO, WE SHOULD *CAST* IT.
WHAT'S THE HARM IN ASKING?
'CAUSE YOU'LL SELL IT IF IT'S WORTH A LOT.
WHAT DO YOU THINK WE SHOULD DO?
DRAT.
WELL...
I THINK WE CAN HOLD ON TO IT FOR NOW (WE DON'T HAVE ANY CARDS TO PROTECT ANYWAY).
WE WON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT GETTING ROBBED WITH THIS MANY DEFENSIVE SPELLS.
SO HAVE YOU CAST ANY?
WHOOO
JUST "BLACKOUT CURTAIN."
WHAT? WE HAVE SPELLS, WE MIGHT AS WELL CAST 'EM.
WE SHOULD GET USED TO IT, OR WE'LL CHOKE WHEN THERE'S REAL TROUBLE.

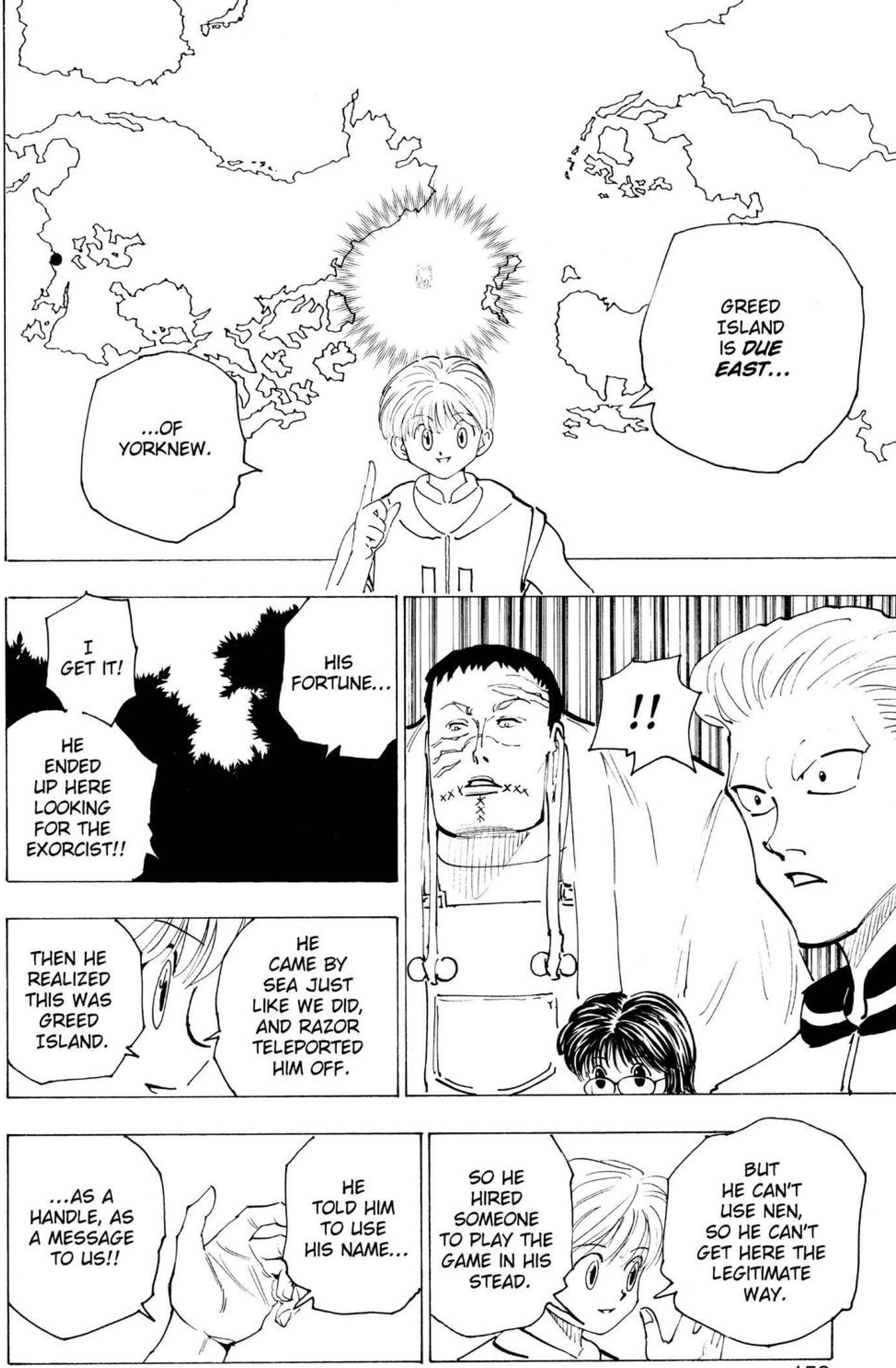

1040
CONTACT
F-200
TALK TO ONE OTHER PLAYER (ONE YOU'VE MET BEFORE IN THE GAME) THROUGH THE BINDER (FOR A MAXIMUM OF THREE MINUTES - ONLY THE PLAYER WHO INITIATED THE CONTACT CAN BREAK IT OFF).
L
N
TRY CASTING THIS ONE.
CHECK OUT HOW MANY PEOPLE YOU'VE MET.
"CONTACT" ON!!
LEMME SEE.
OOH... QUITE A LOT.
PIP
PIP
!!
HEY, GON...
WHEN DID YOU COME ACROSS *HIM*?
HUH?

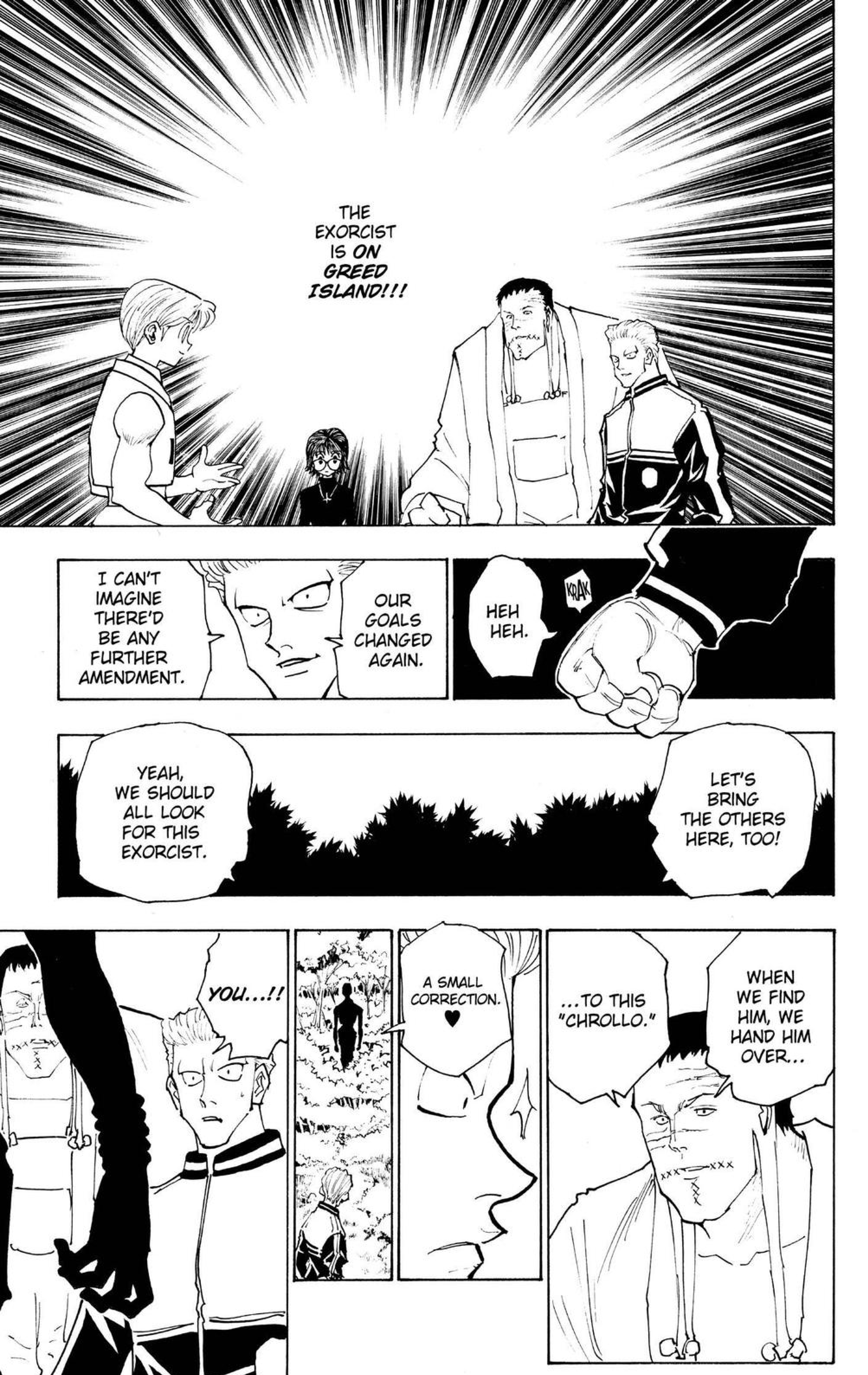
READ THIS WAY

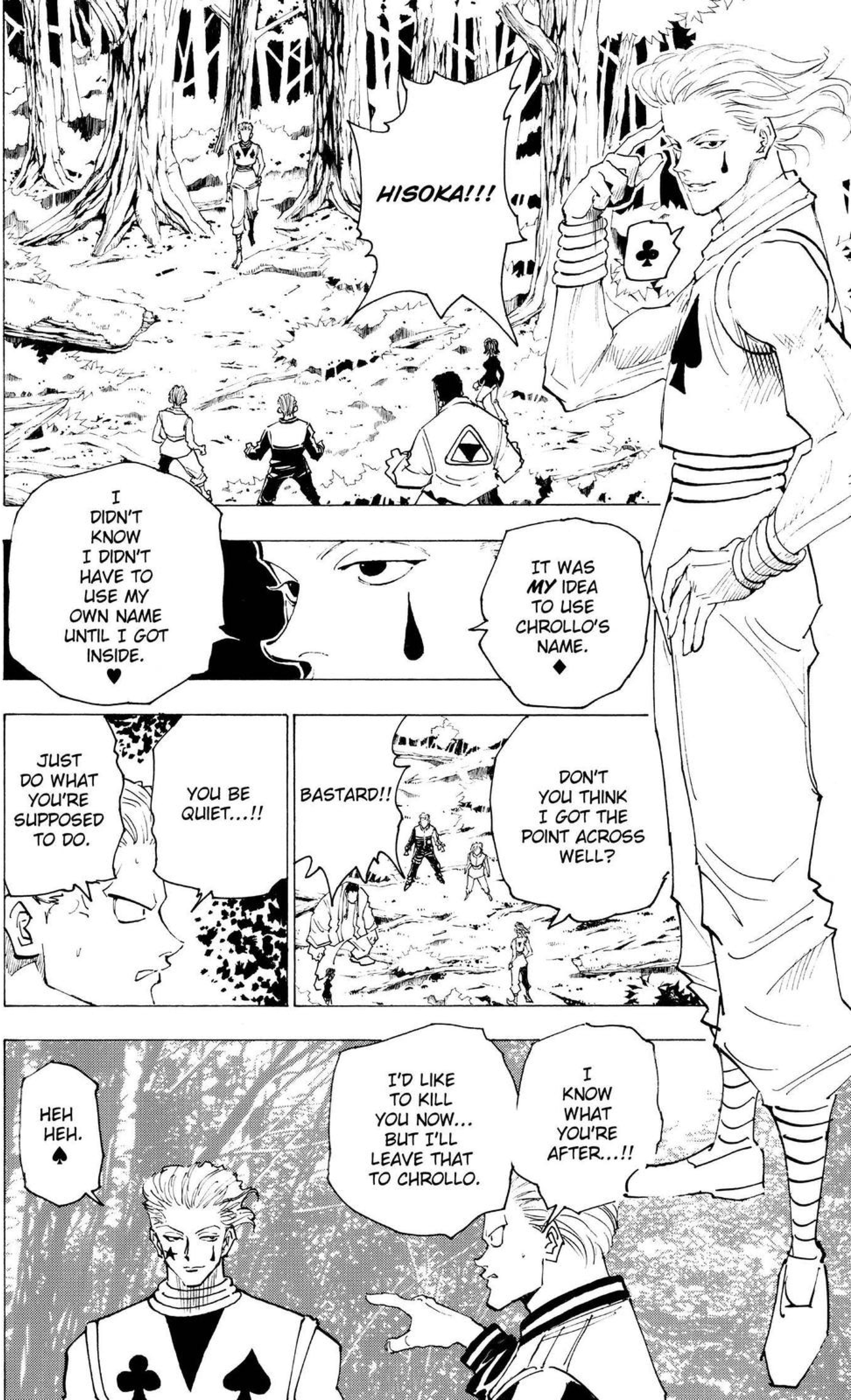

Chrollo Lucilfer
CHROLLO?!
?
WHO?
I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM IN THE GAME!
WHAT? WHAT?
THEN YOU PASSED HIM WITHOUT SEEING HIM...
BUT KURAPIKA SEALED HIS NEN!
WHO'S KURAPIKA?!
YEAH... HE CAN'T ENTER THE GAME WITHOUT NEN.
THAT MEANS...
GUYS!
TELL ME WHAT'S GOING ON!!
KAPOW

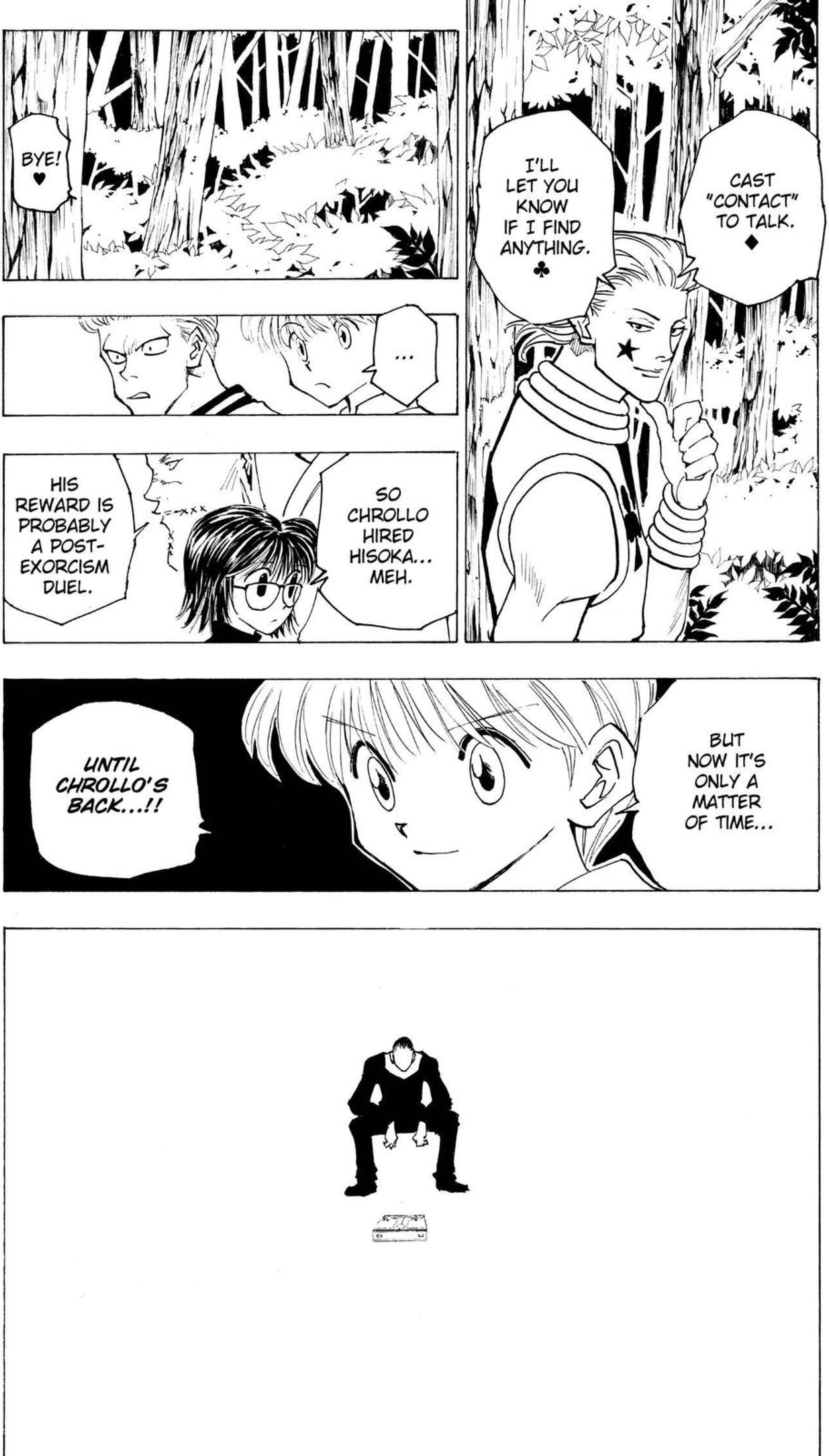

SURE.
THERE ARE WAYS TO REMOVE NEN.
REALLY?!
WHY NOT?
IF NEN CAN AFFECT PEOPLE, IT'S NOT SO STRANGE THAT THERE ARE ABILITIES TO **REMOVE** THAT EFFECT.
IT'S CALLED EXORCISM.
BUT THERE ARE FEW WHO CAN DO IT.
SO CHROLLO MUST'VE REMOVED KURAPIKA'S NEN...
BUT WHAT'S HE DOING HERE?
I HAVE NO IDEA...
BUT WE BETTER TELL KURAPIKA.
ALL RIGHT, I'LL HOP OUT ONCE MORE!
WE HAVE A "LEAVE."
KEEP IT! I'LL BE BACK IN FOUR HOURS.

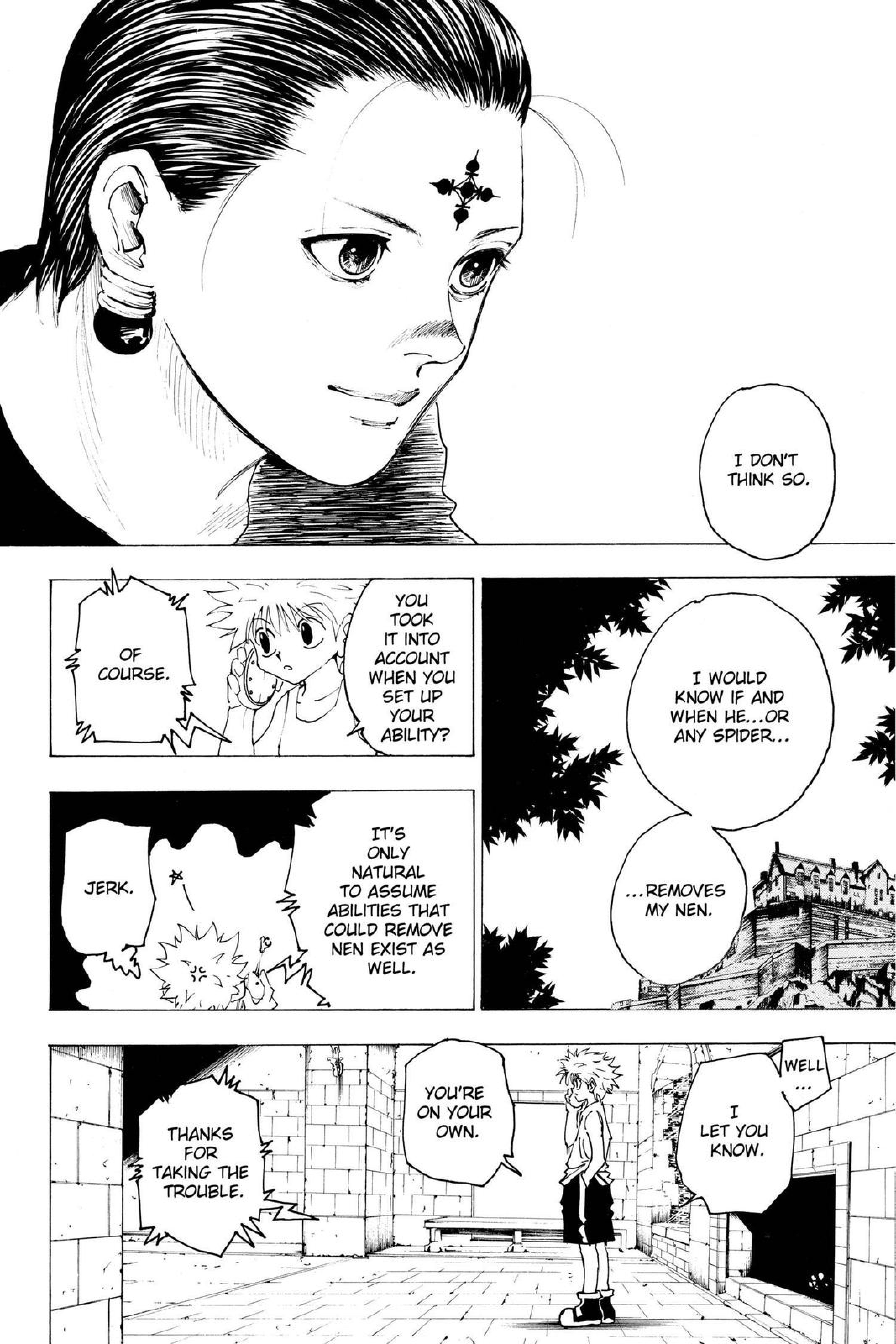

HEH, HA HA HA!
OF COURSE!
HEY, SHAL!!
STOP LAUGHING AND EXPLAIN!!
SORRY.
THIS PROBABLY ISN'T CHROLLO.
THERE *IS* A CHANCE HE'S HERE...
...AND WE PASSED WITHIN 20 M WITHOUT NOTICING EACH OTHER.
BUT THERE'S A **BETTER** EXPLANATION.
CHROLLO'S NEN IS STILL SEALED.
AND HE CAME HERE...
...WITHOUT KNOWING IT WAS GREED ISLAND.
?
WHY DIDN'T I NOTICE BEFORE?

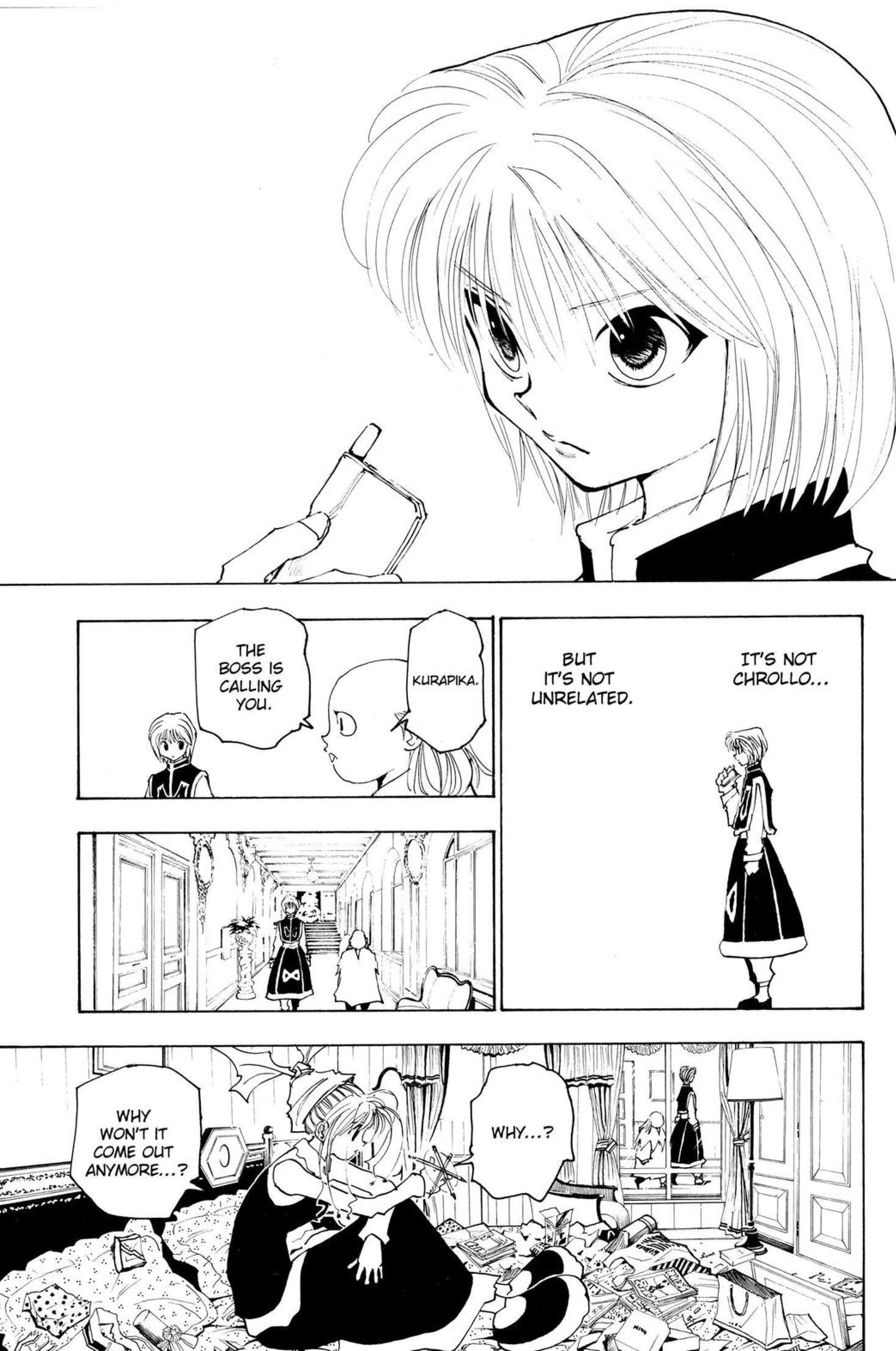

GREED ISLAND IS DUE EAST...
...OF YORKNEW.
!!
HIS FORTUNE...
I GET IT!
HE ENDED UP HERE LOOKING FOR THE EXORCIST!!
HE CAME BY SEA JUST LIKE WE DID, AND RAZOR TELEPORTED HIM OFF.
THEN HE REALIZED THIS WAS GREED ISLAND.
BUT HE CAN'T USE NEN, SO HE CAN'T GET HERE THE LEGITIMATE WAY.
SO HE HIRED SOMEONE TO PLAY THE GAME IN HIS STEAD.
HE TOLD HIM TO USE HIS NAME...
...AS A HANDLE, AS A MESSAGE TO US!!

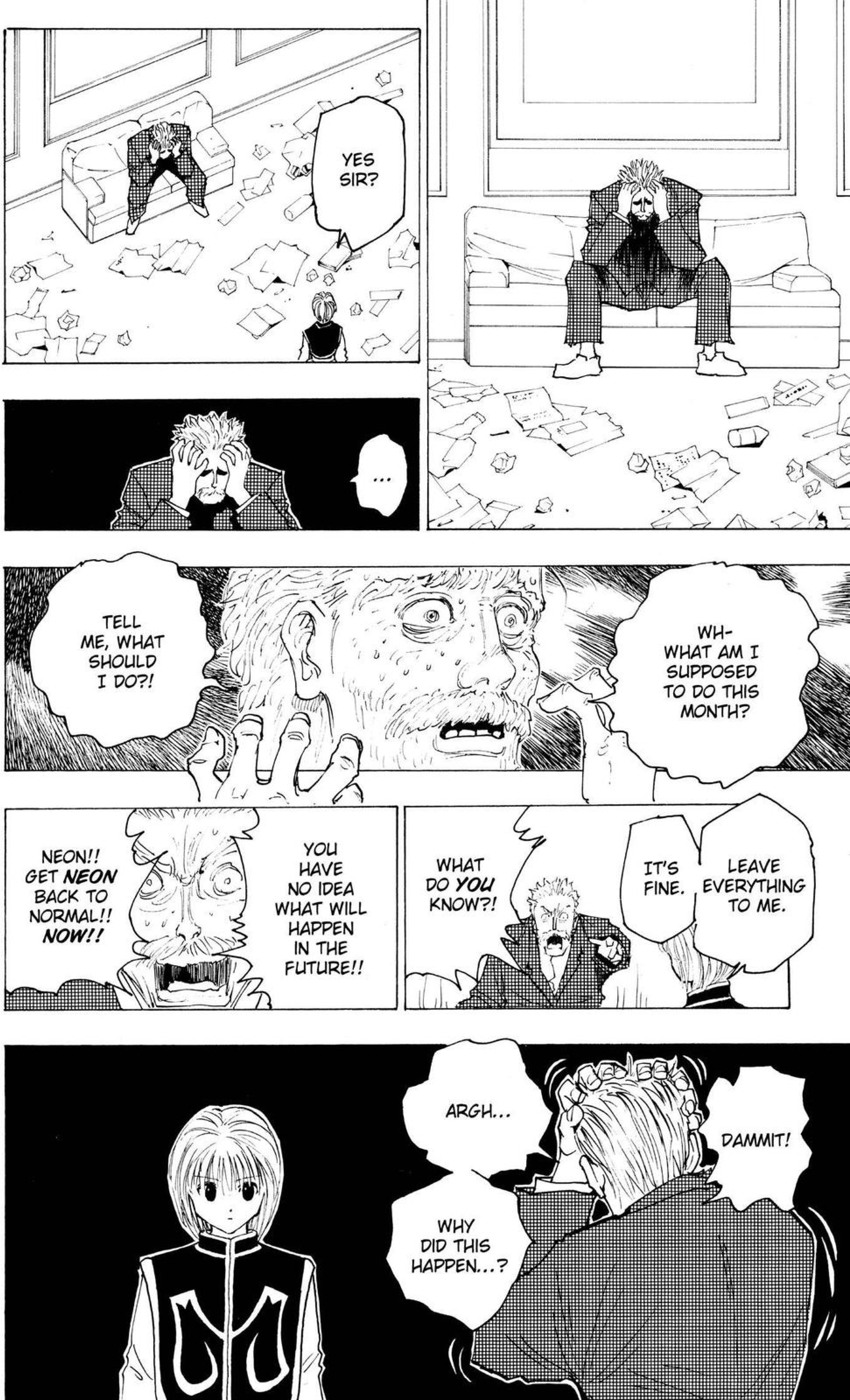

THE EXORCIST IS ON GREED ISLAND!!!
KRAK
HEH HEH.
OUR GOALS CHANGED AGAIN.
I CAN'T IMAGINE THERE'D BE ANY FURTHER AMENDMENT.
LET'S BRING THE OTHERS HERE, TOO!
YEAH, WE SHOULD ALL LOOK FOR THIS EXORCIST.
WHEN WE FIND HIM, WE HAND HIM OVER...
...TO THIS "CHROLLO."
A SMALL CORRECTION. ♥
YOU...!!

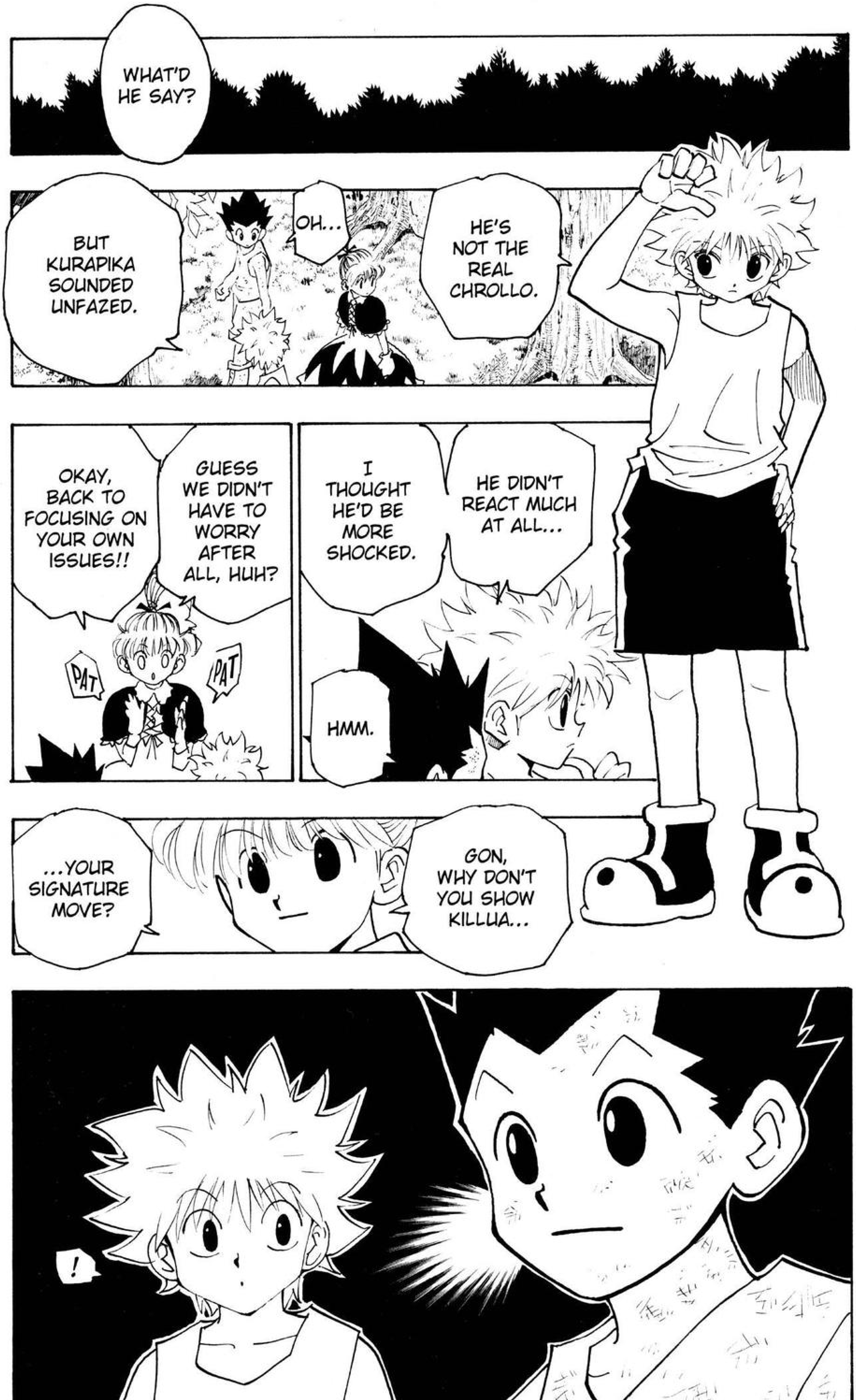

HISOKA!!!
IT WAS MY IDEA TO USE CHROLLO'S NAME. ◆
I DIDN'T KNOW I DIDN'T HAVE TO USE MY OWN NAME UNTIL I GOT INSIDE. ♥
DON'T YOU THINK I GOT THE POINT ACROSS WELL? ◆
BASTARD!!
YOU BE QUIET...!!
JUST DO WHAT YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO DO.
I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE AFTER...!!
I'D LIKE TO KILL YOU NOW... BUT I'LL LEAVE THAT TO CHROLLO.
HEH HEH. ♠


CAST "CONTACT" TO TALK. ◆
I'LL LET YOU KNOW IF I FIND ANYTHING. ♣
BYE! ♥
...
SO CHROLLO HIRED HISOKA... MEH.
HIS REWARD IS PROBABLY A POST-EXORCISM DUEL.
BUT NOW IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME...
UNTIL CHROLLO'S BACK...!!

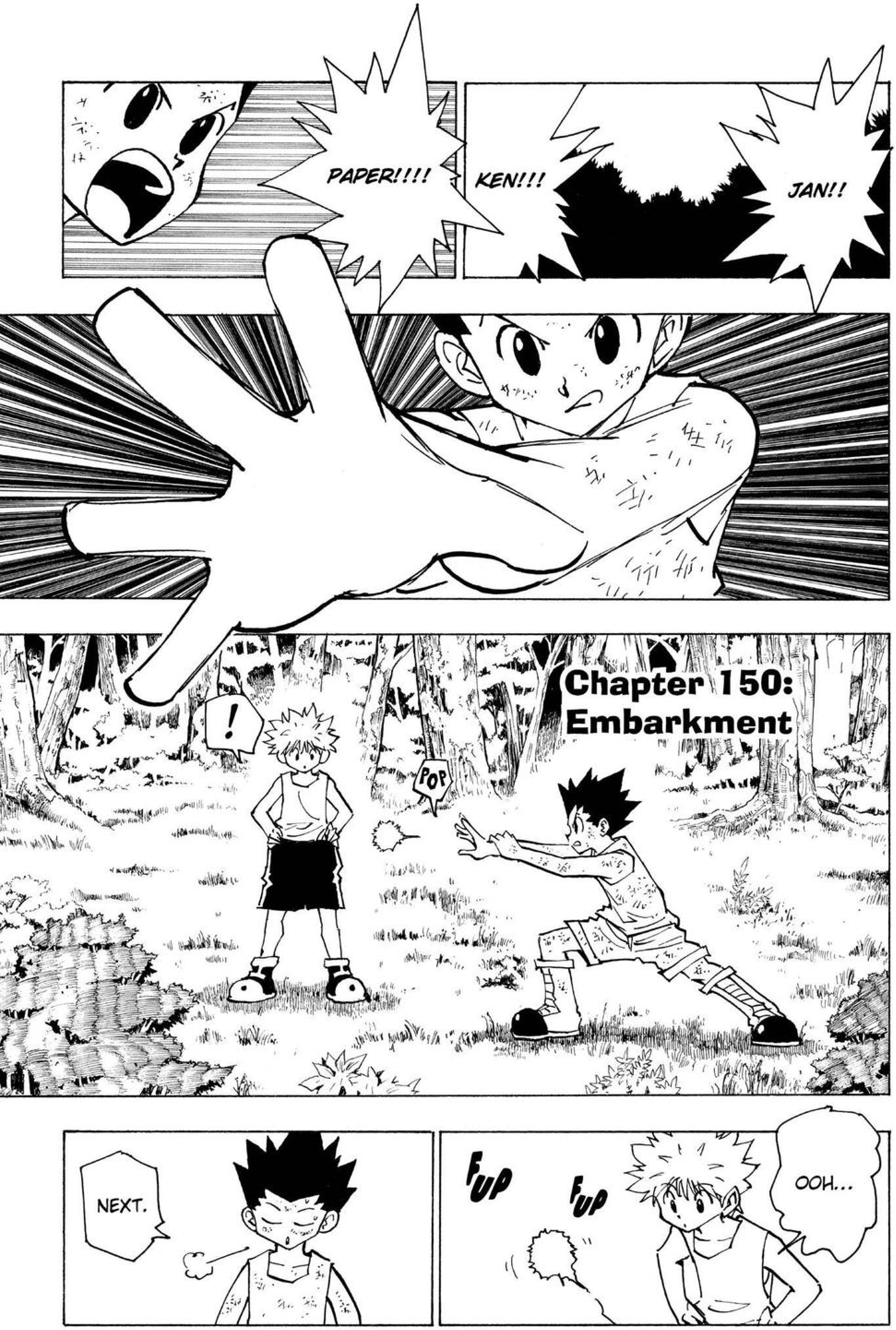

I DON'T THINK SO.
I WOULD KNOW IF AND WHEN HE...OR ANY SPIDER...
...REMOVES MY NEN.
YOU TOOK IT INTO ACCOUNT WHEN YOU SET UP YOUR ABILITY?
OF COURSE.
IT'S ONLY NATURAL TO ASSUME ABILITIES THAT COULD REMOVE NEN EXIST AS WELL.
JERK.
WELL...
I LET YOU KNOW.
YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN.
THANKS FOR TAKING THE TROUBLE.

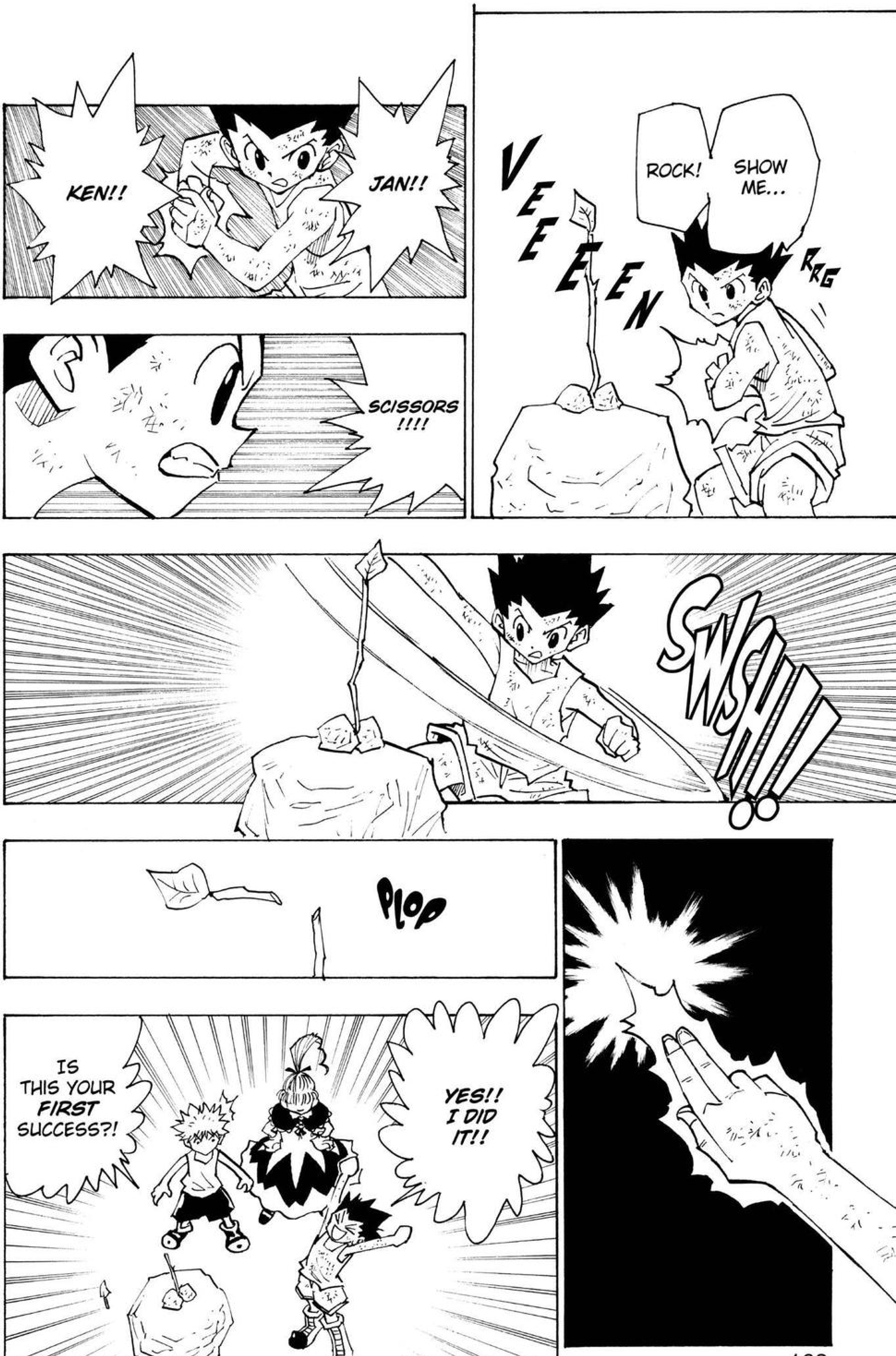

IT'S NOT CHROLLO...
BUT IT'S NOT UNRELATED.
KURAPIKA.
THE BOSS IS CALLING YOU.
WHY...?
WHY WON'T IT COME OUT ANYMORE...?

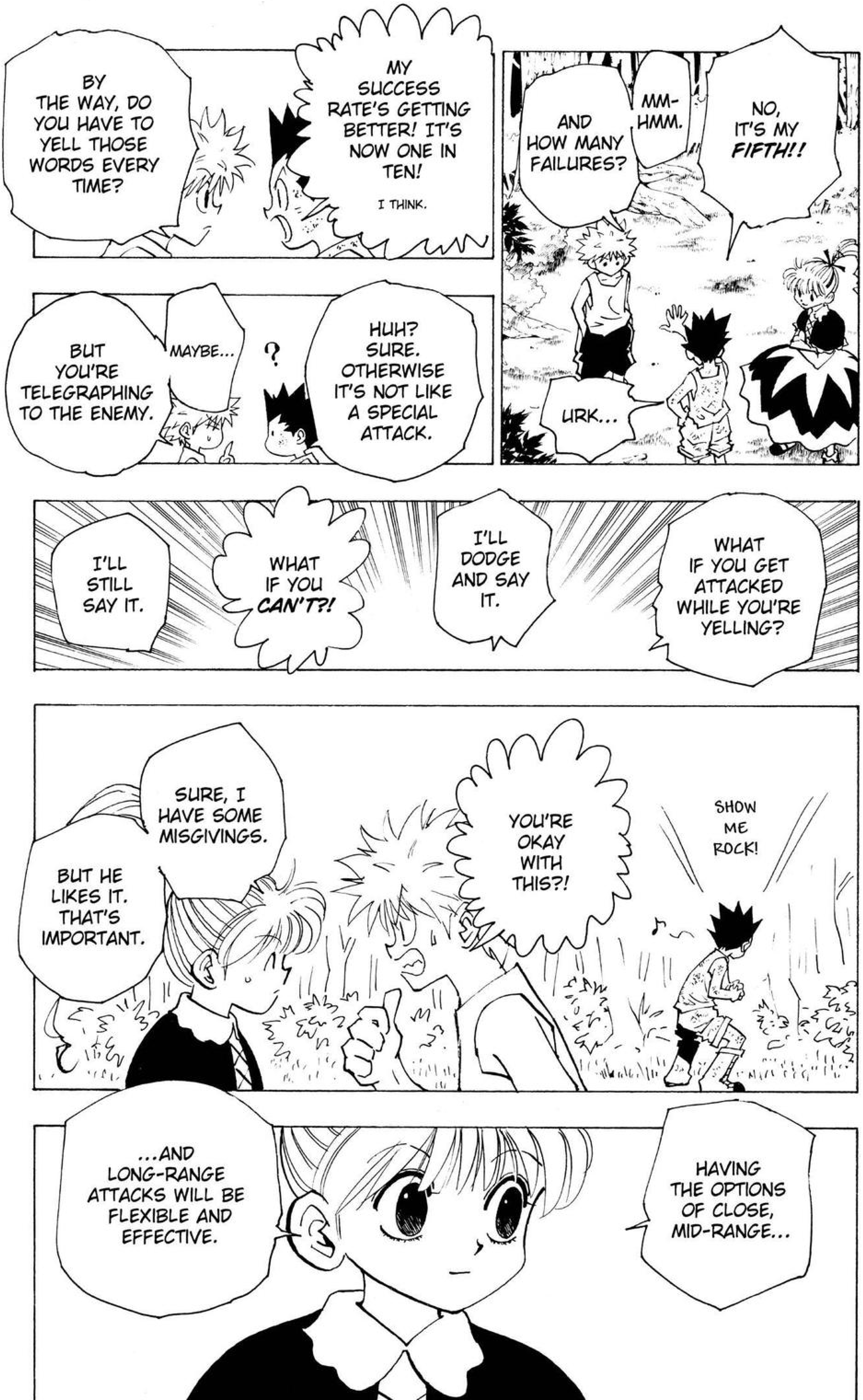

YES SIR?
...
TELL ME, WHAT SHOULD I DO?!
WH- WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO THIS MONTH?
NEON!! GET **NEON** BACK TO NORMAL!! ***NOW!!***
YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT WILL HAPPEN IN THE FUTURE!!
WHAT DO ***YOU*** KNOW?!
IT'S FINE.
LEAVE EVERYTHING TO ME.
ARGH...
DAMMIT!
WHY DID THIS HAPPEN...?

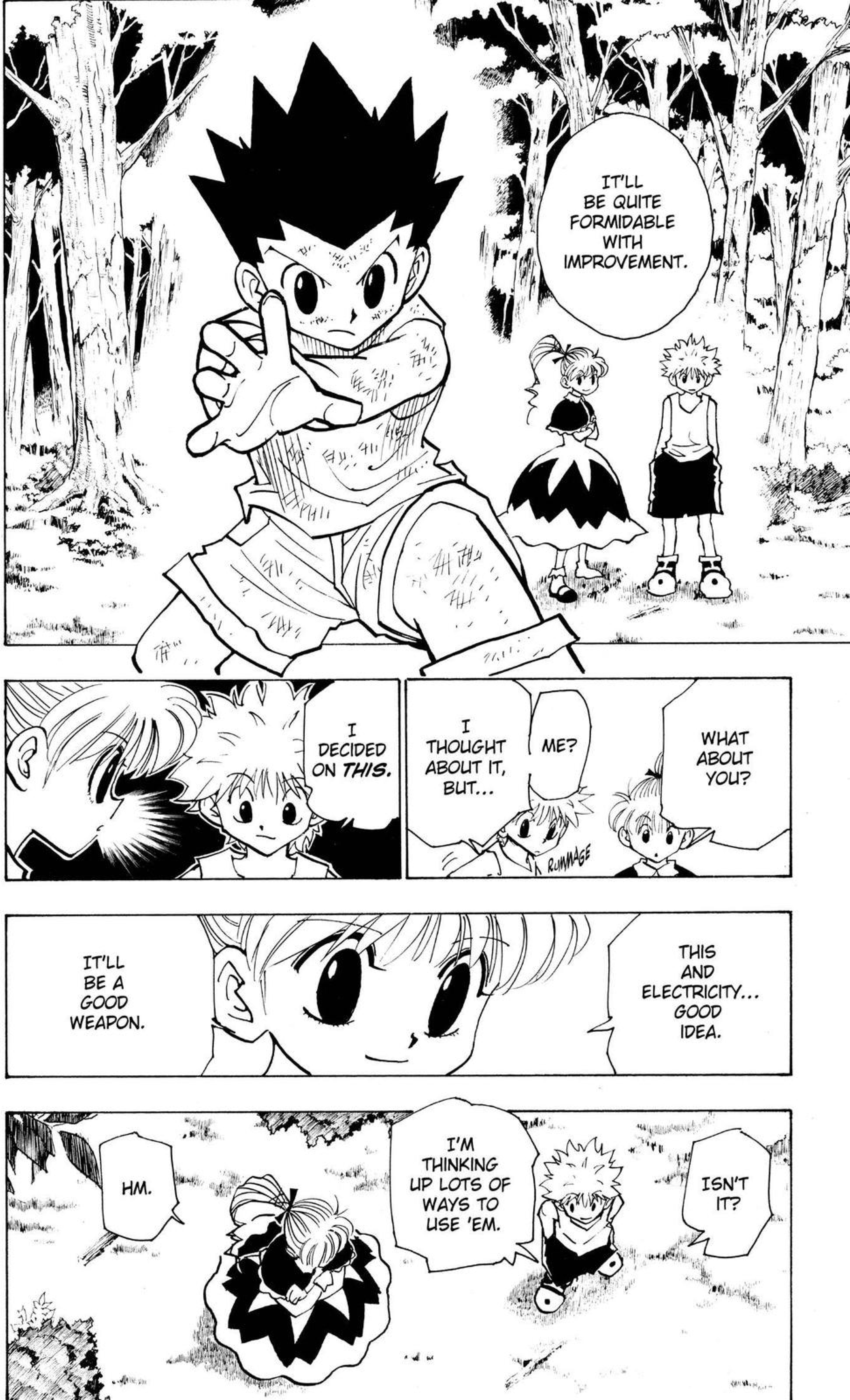

WHAT'D HE SAY?
HE'S NOT THE REAL CHROLLO.
OH...
BUT KURAPIKA SOUNDED UNFAZED.
HE DIDN'T REACT MUCH AT ALL...
I THOUGHT HE'D BE MORE SHOCKED.
HMM.
GUESS WE DIDN'T HAVE TO WORRY AFTER ALL, HUH?
OKAY, BACK TO FOCUSING ON YOUR OWN ISSUES!!
PAT
PAT
GON, WHY DON'T YOU SHOW KILLUA...
...YOUR SIGNATURE MOVE?
!

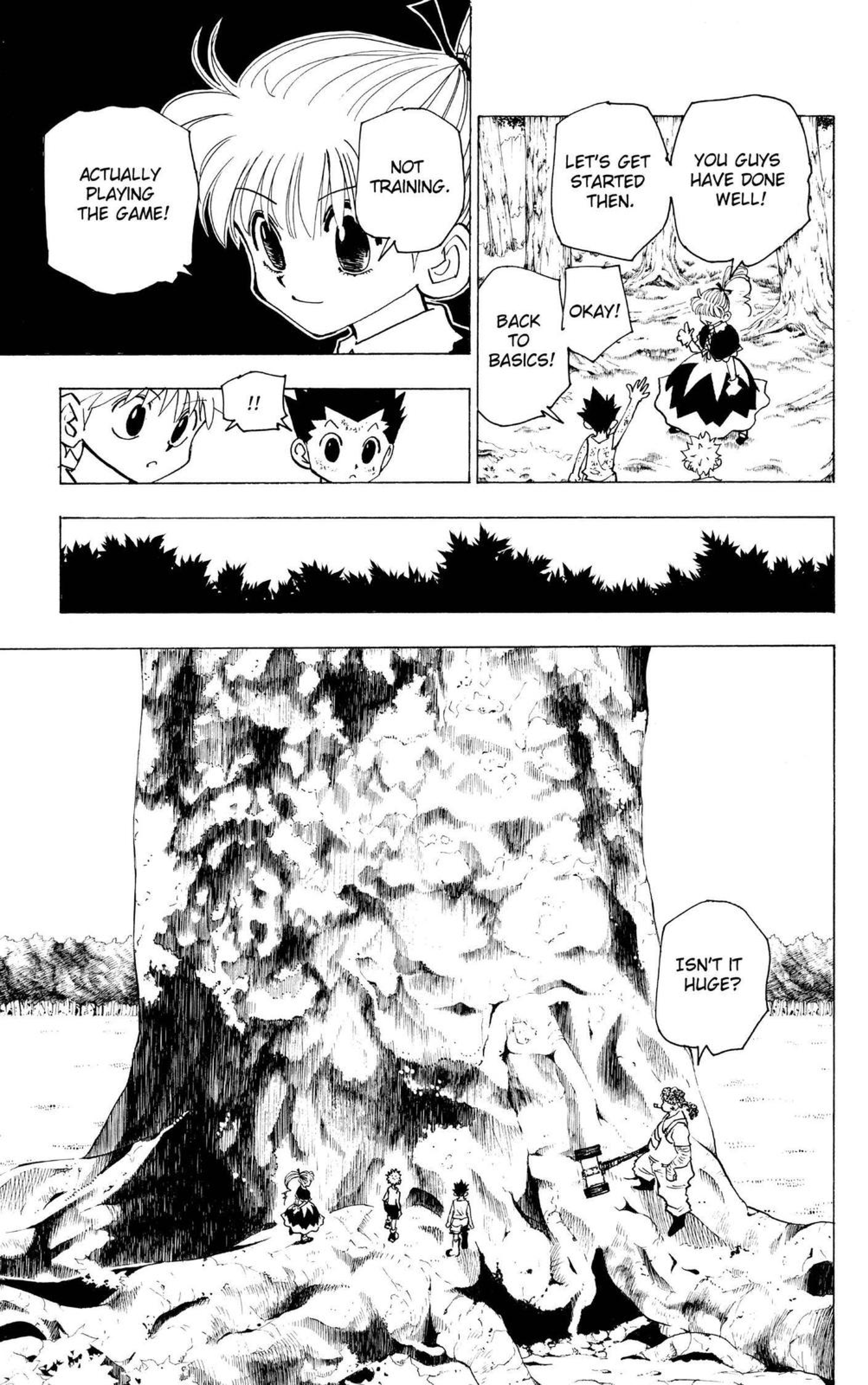
Chapter 150: Embarkment

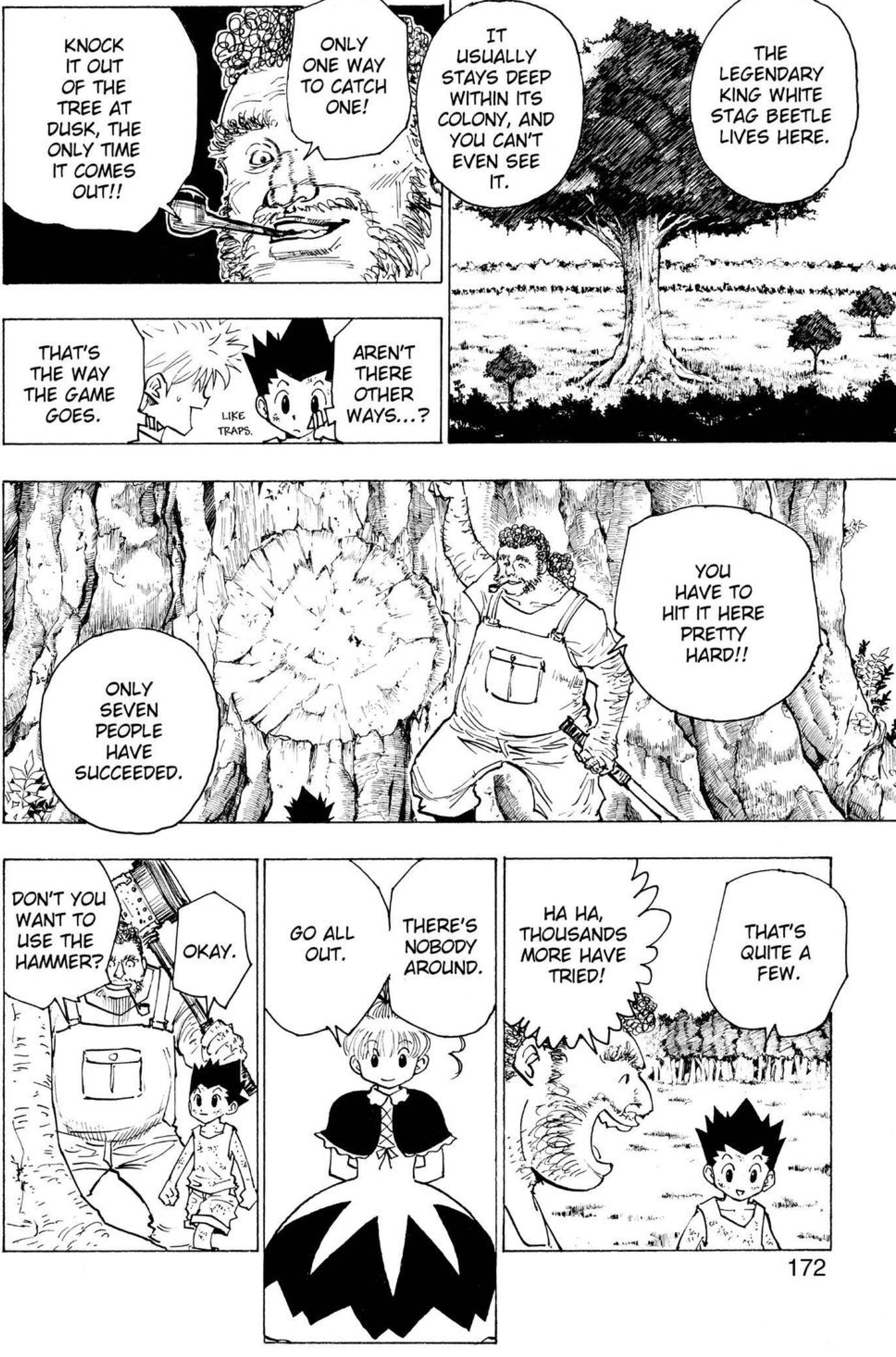

JAN!!
KEN!!!
PAPER!!!!
POP
!
OOH...
FUP
FUP
NEXT.


VEEEEN
SHOW ME...
ROCK!
RRG
JAN!!
KEN!!
SCISSORS!!!!
SWSH!!!
PLOP
YES!! I DID IT!!
IS THIS YOUR FIRST SUCCESS?!

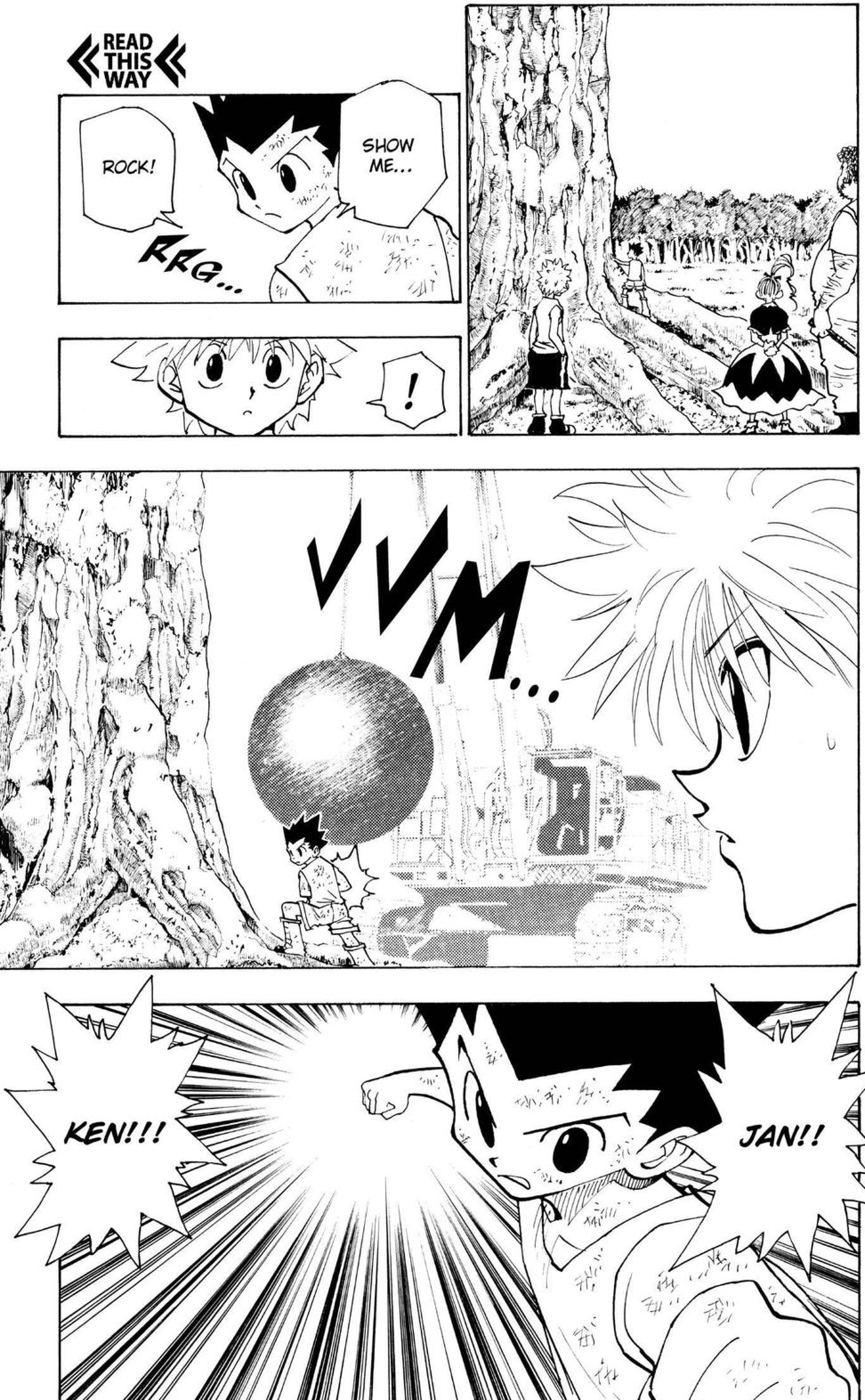

NO, IT'S MY *FIFTH!!*
MM-HMM.
AND HOW MANY FAILURES?
URK...
MY SUCCESS RATE'S GETTING BETTER! IT'S NOW ONE IN TEN!
I THINK.
BY THE WAY, DO YOU HAVE TO YELL THOSE WORDS EVERY TIME?
HUH? SURE. OTHERWISE IT'S NOT LIKE A SPECIAL ATTACK.
?
MAYBE...
BUT YOU'RE TELEGRAPHING TO THE ENEMY.
WHAT IF YOU GET ATTACKED WHILE YOU'RE YELLING?
I'LL DODGE AND SAY IT.
WHAT IF YOU *CAN'T?!*
I'LL STILL SAY IT.
SHOW ME ROCK!
YOU'RE OKAY WITH THIS?!
SURE, I HAVE SOME MISGIVINGS.
BUT HE LIKES IT. THAT'S IMPORTANT.
HAVING THE OPTIONS OF CLOSE, MID-RANGE...
...AND LONG-RANGE ATTACKS WILL BE FLEXIBLE AND EFFECTIVE.

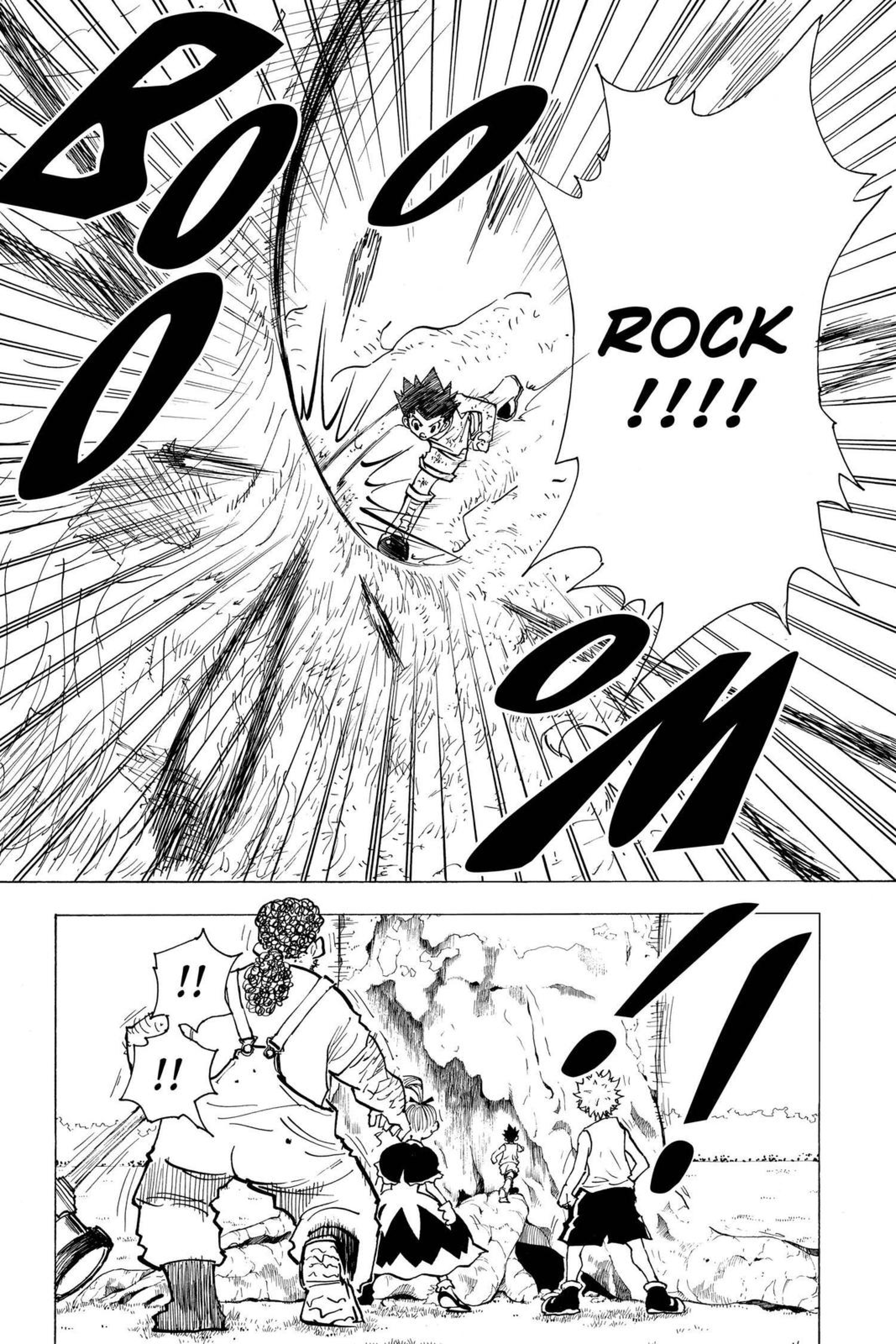

IT'LL BE QUITE FORMIDABLE WITH IMPROVEMENT.
WHAT ABOUT YOU?
ME?
I THOUGHT ABOUT IT, BUT...
RUMMAGE
I DECIDED ON *THIS.*
THIS AND ELECTRICITY... GOOD IDEA.
IT'LL BE A GOOD WEAPON.
ISN'T IT?
I'M THINKING UP LOTS OF WAYS TO USE 'EM.
HM.


NOT TRAINING.
ACTUALLY PLAYING THE GAME!
!!
YOU GUYS HAVE DONE WELL!
LET'S GET STARTED THEN.
OKAY!
BACK TO BASICS!
ISN'T IT HUGE?

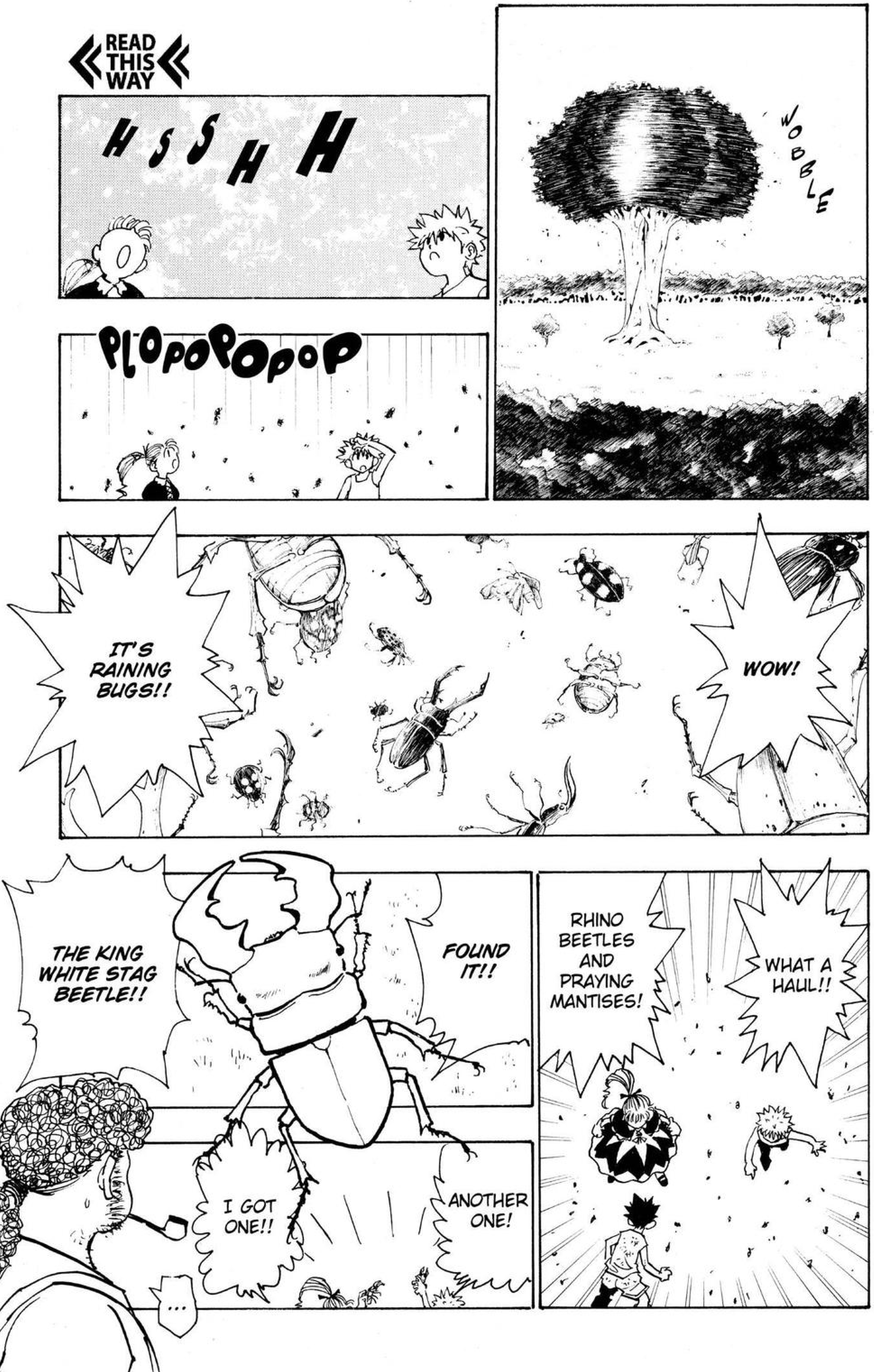

THE LEGENDARY KING WHITE STAG BEETLE LIVES HERE.
IT USUALLY STAYS DEEP WITHIN ITS COLONY, AND YOU CAN'T EVEN SEE IT.
ONLY ONE WAY TO CATCH ONE!
KNOCK IT OUT OF THE TREE AT DUSK, THE ONLY TIME IT COMES OUT!!
AREN'T THERE OTHER WAYS...?
LIKE TRAPS.
THAT'S THE WAY THE GAME GOES.
YOU HAVE TO HIT IT HERE PRETTY HARD!!
ONLY SEVEN PEOPLE HAVE SUCCEEDED.
THAT'S QUITE A FEW.
HA HA, THOUSANDS MORE HAVE TRIED!
THERE'S NOBODY AROUND.
GO ALL OUT.
DON'T YOU WANT TO USE THE HAMMER?
OKAY.

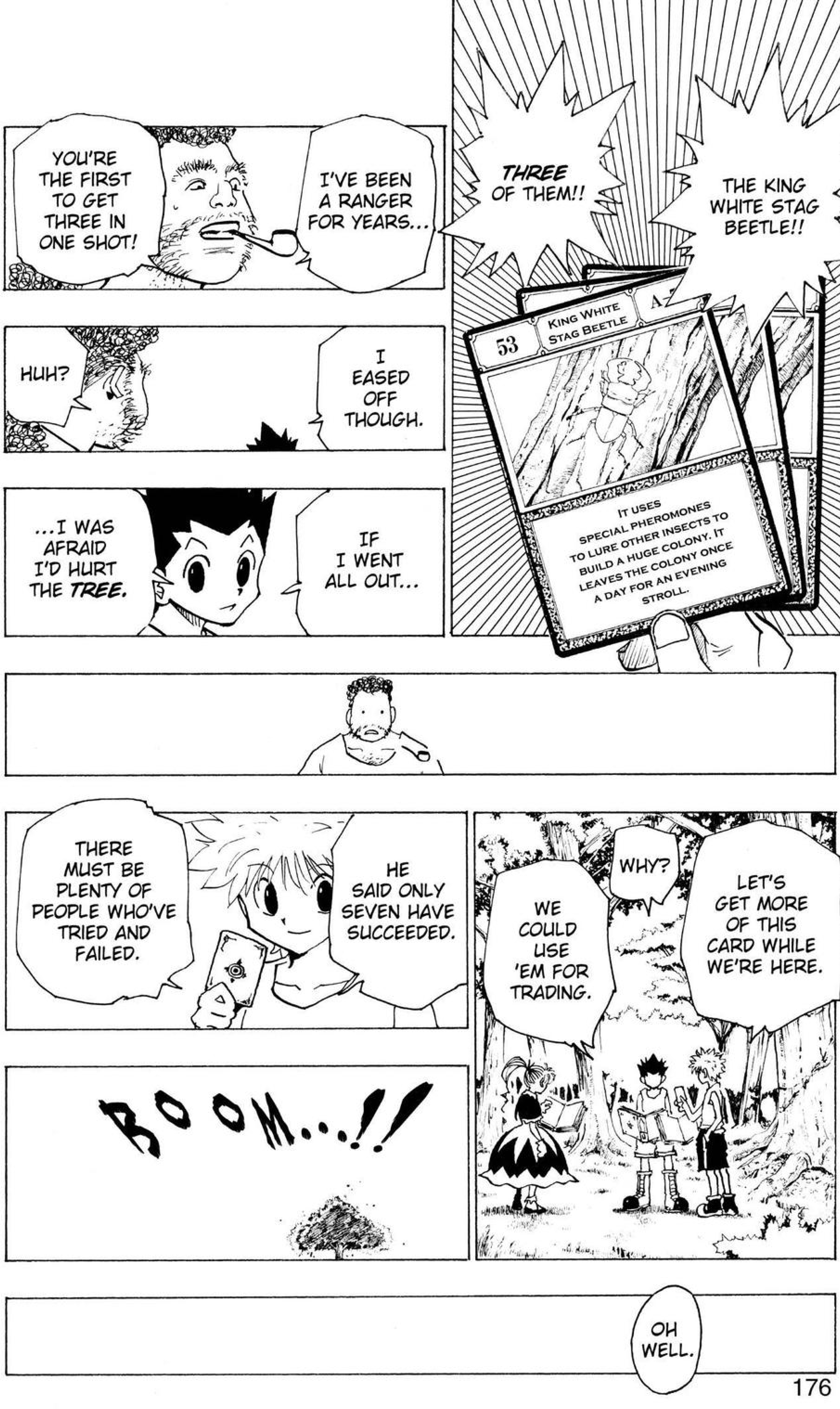
READ THIS WAY

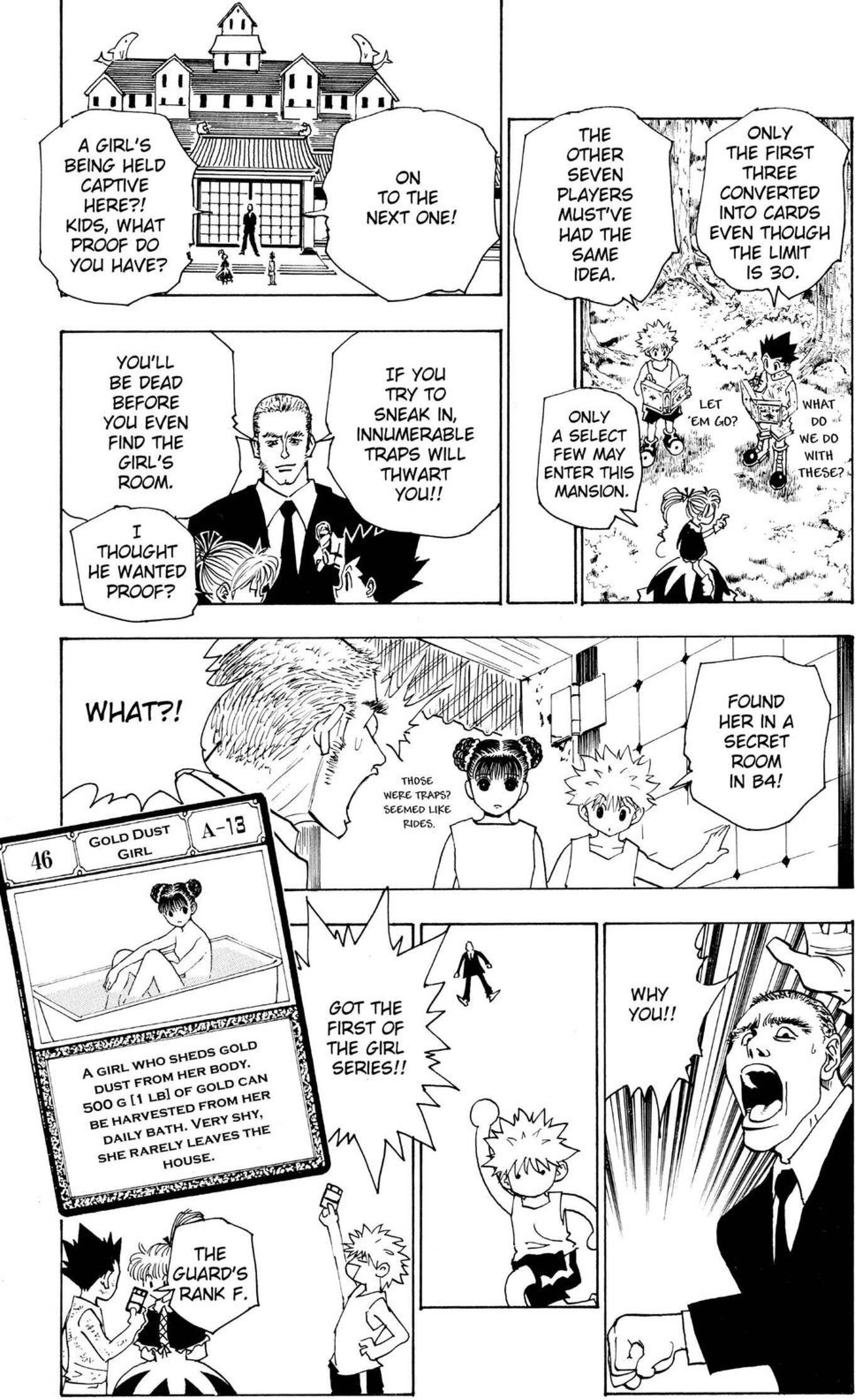

SHOW ME...
ROCK!
RRG...
!
VVM...
JAN!!
KEN!!!

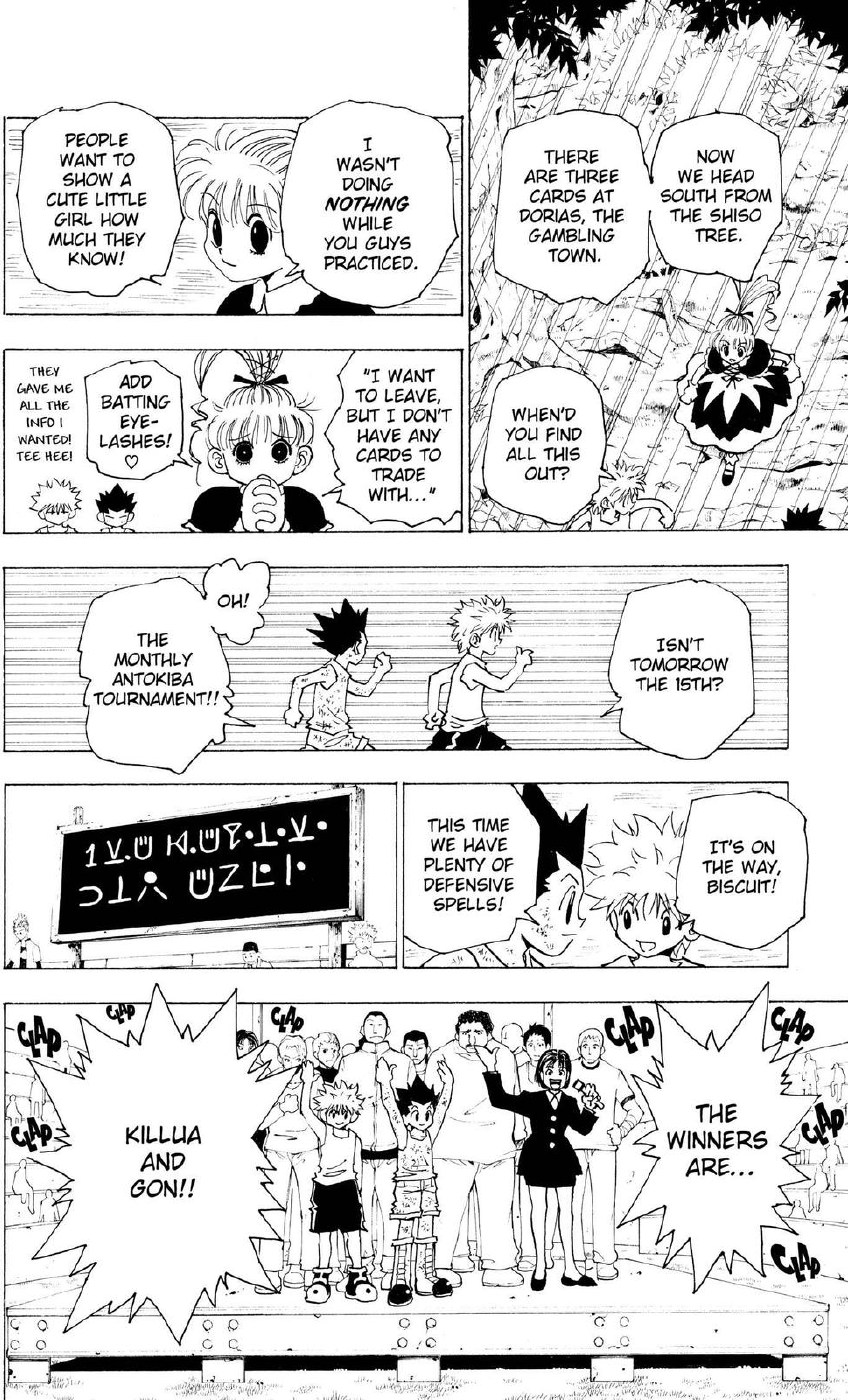

BOOOOM!!
ROCK!!!!
!!
!!

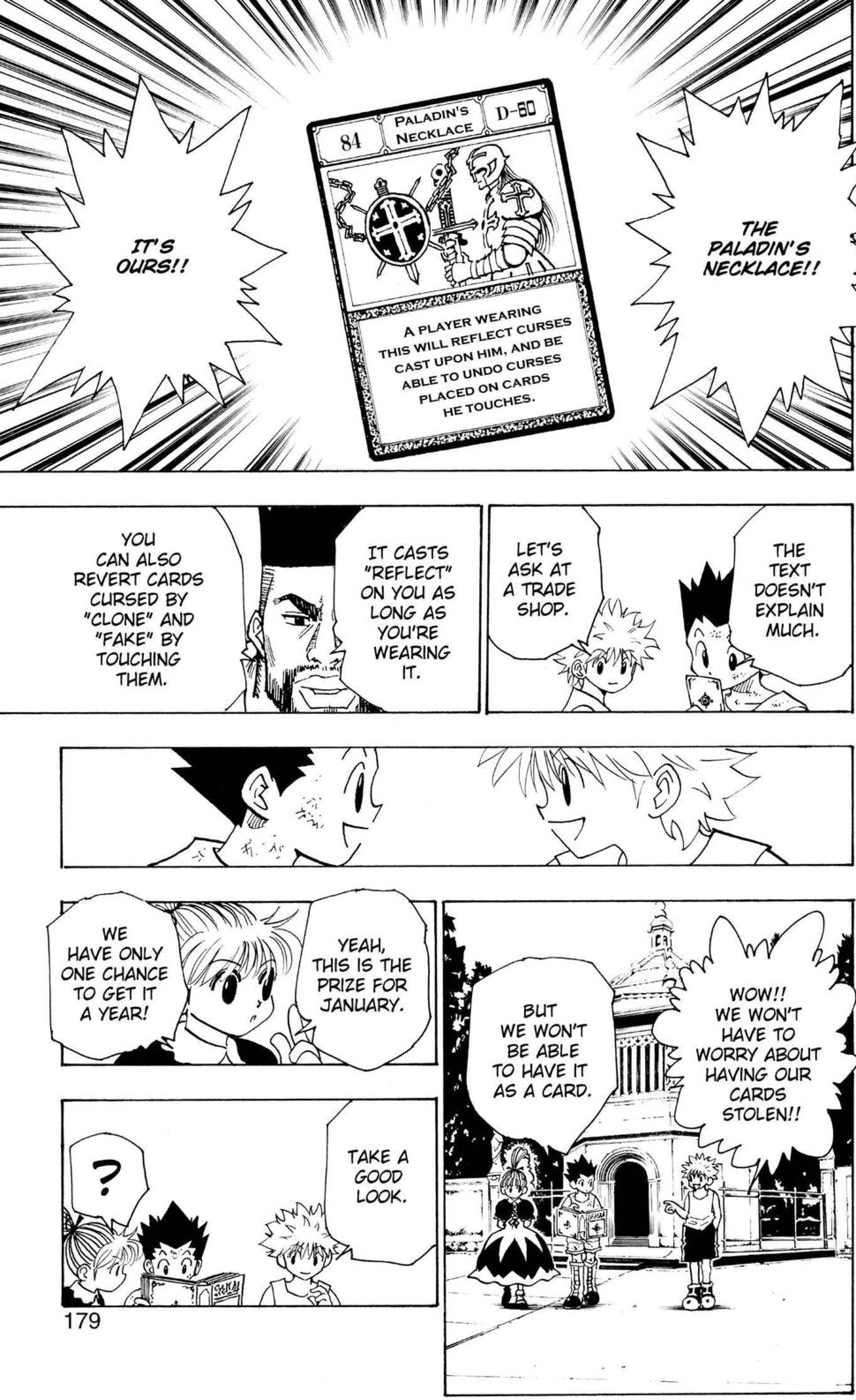
READ THIS WAY

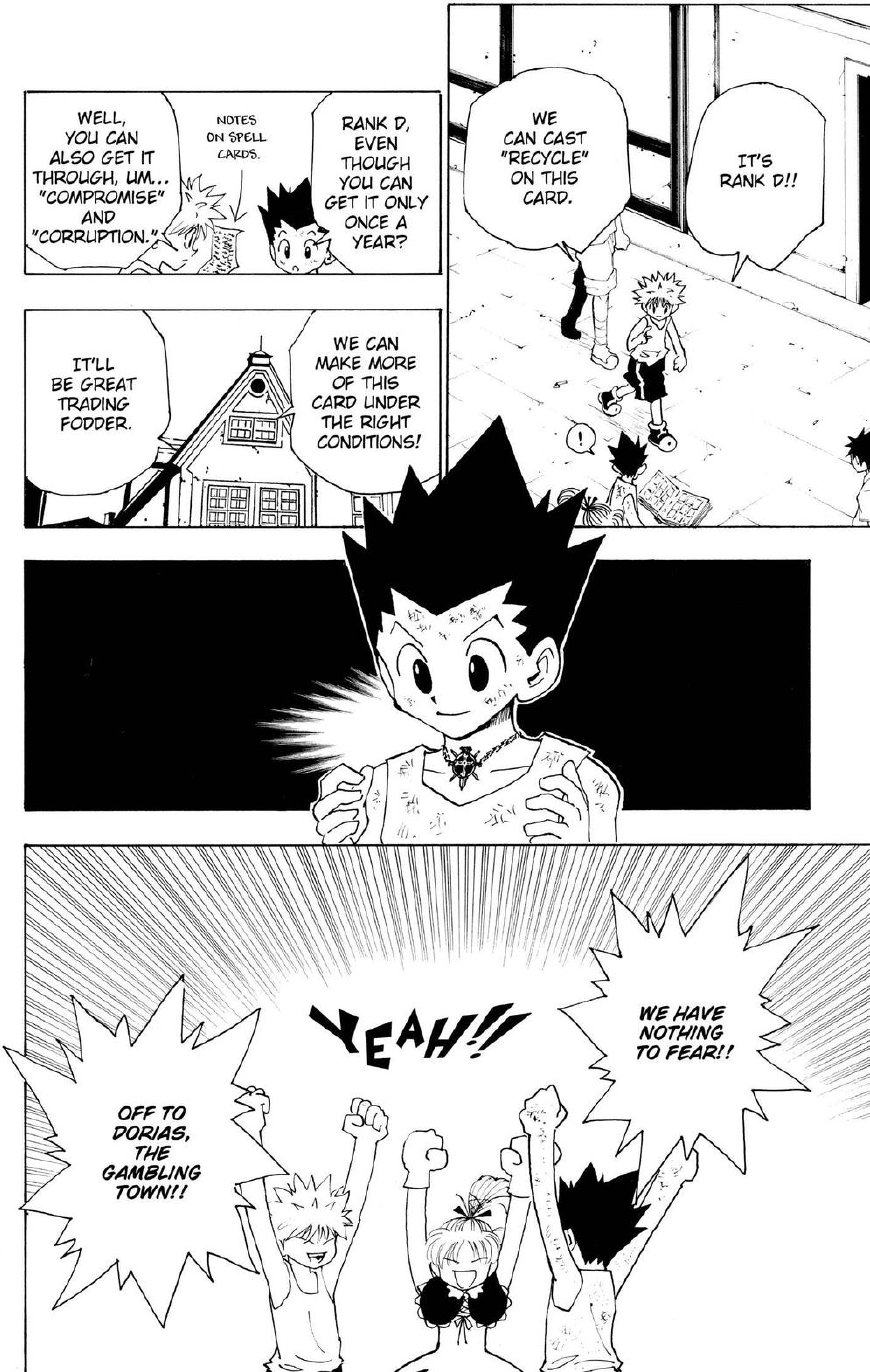

WOBBLE
HSSHH
PLOPOPOPOP
WOW!
IT'S RAINING BUGS!!
WHAT A HAUL!!
RHINO BEETLES AND PRAYING MANTISES!
FOUND IT!!
THE KING WHITE STAG BEETLE!!
ANOTHER ONE!
I GOT ONE!!
...

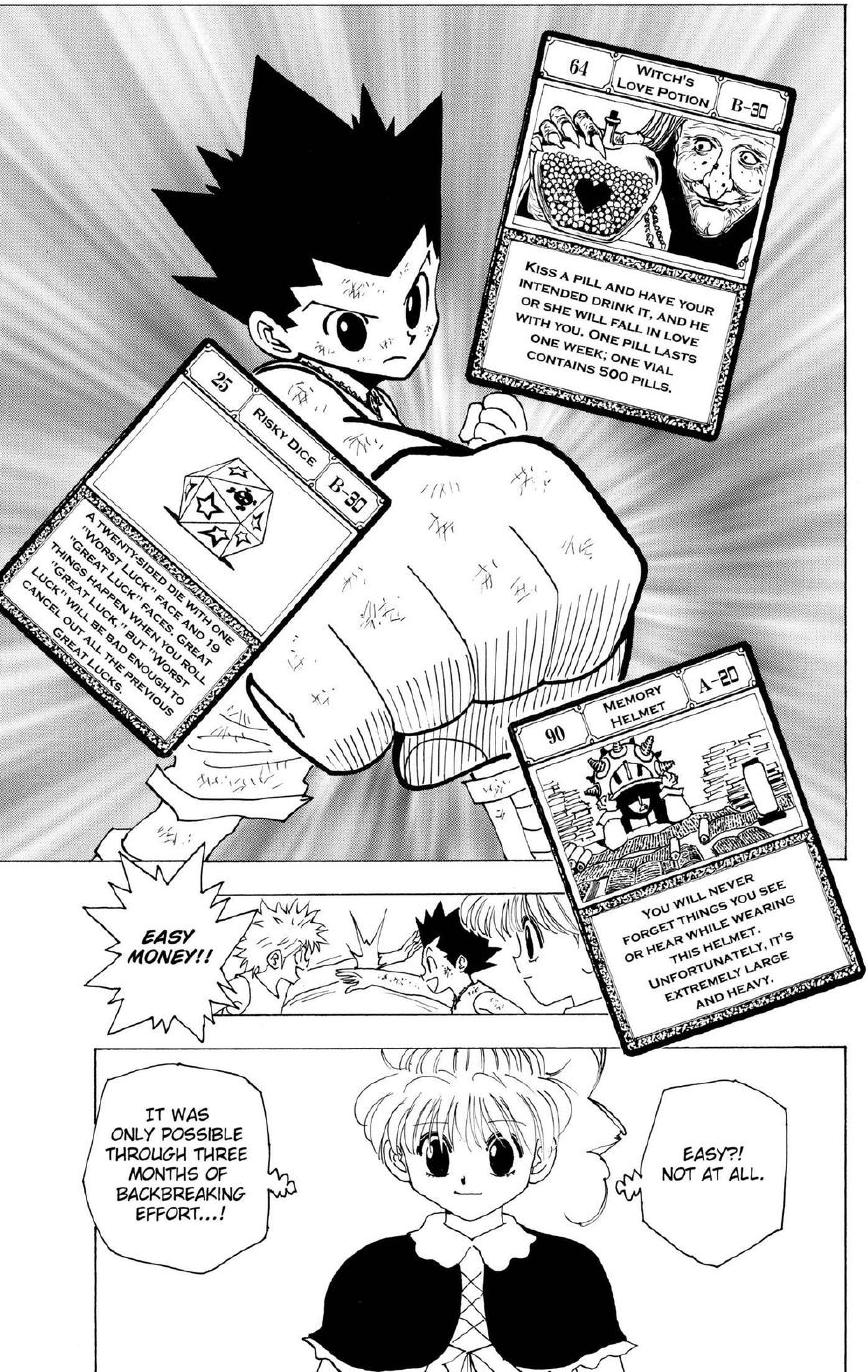

THE KING WHITE STAG BEETLE!!
THREE OF THEM!!
53
King White Stag Beetle
It uses special pheromones to lure other insects to build a huge colony. It leaves the colony once a day for an evening stroll.
I'VE BEEN A RANGER FOR YEARS...
YOU'RE THE FIRST TO GET THREE IN ONE SHOT!
I EASED OFF THOUGH.
HUH?
IF I WENT ALL OUT...
...I WAS AFRAID I'D HURT THE *TREE.*
LET'S GET MORE OF THIS CARD WHILE WE'RE HERE.
WHY?
WE COULD USE 'EM FOR TRADING.
HE SAID ONLY SEVEN HAVE SUCCEEDED.
THERE MUST BE PLENTY OF PEOPLE WHO'VE TRIED AND FAILED.
BOOM...!!
OH WELL.


ONLY THE FIRST THREE CONVERTED INTO CARDS EVEN THOUGH THE LIMIT IS 30.
THE OTHER SEVEN PLAYERS MUST'VE HAD THE SAME IDEA.
WHAT DO WE DO WITH THESE?
LET 'EM GO?
ON TO THE NEXT ONE!
ONLY A SELECT FEW MAY ENTER THIS MANSION.
A GIRL'S BEING HELD CAPTIVE HERE?! KIDS, WHAT PROOF DO YOU HAVE?
IF YOU TRY TO SNEAK IN, INNUMERABLE TRAPS WILL THWART YOU!!
YOU'LL BE DEAD BEFORE YOU EVEN FIND THE GIRL'S ROOM.
I THOUGHT HE WANTED PROOF?
FOUND HER IN A SECRET ROOM IN B4!
THOSE WERE TRAPS? SEEMED LIKE RIDES.
WHAT?!
46
GOLD DUST GIRL
A-13
A GIRL WHO SHEDS GOLD DUST FROM HER BODY. 500 G [1 LB] OF GOLD CAN BE HARVESTED FROM HER DAILY BATH. VERY SHY, SHE RARELY LEAVES THE HOUSE.
WHY YOU!!
GOT THE FIRST OF THE GIRL SERIES!!
THE GUARD'S RANK F.


NOW WE HEAD SOUTH FROM THE SHISO TREE.
THERE ARE THREE CARDS AT DORIAS, THE GAMBLING TOWN.
WHEN'D YOU FIND ALL THIS OUT?
I WASN'T DOING *NOTHING* WHILE YOU GUYS PRACTICED.
PEOPLE WANT TO SHOW A CUTE LITTLE GIRL HOW MUCH THEY KNOW!
"I WANT TO LEAVE, BUT I DON'T HAVE ANY CARDS TO TRADE WITH..."
ADD BATTING EYELASHES! ♡
THEY GAVE ME ALL THE INFO I WANTED! TEE HEE!
ISN'T TOMORROW THE 15TH?
OH!
THE MONTHLY ANTOKIBA TOURNAMENT!!
IT'S ON THE WAY, BISCUIT!
THIS TIME WE HAVE PLENTY OF DEFENSIVE SPELLS!
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
THE WINNERS ARE...
KILLUA AND GON!!
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP

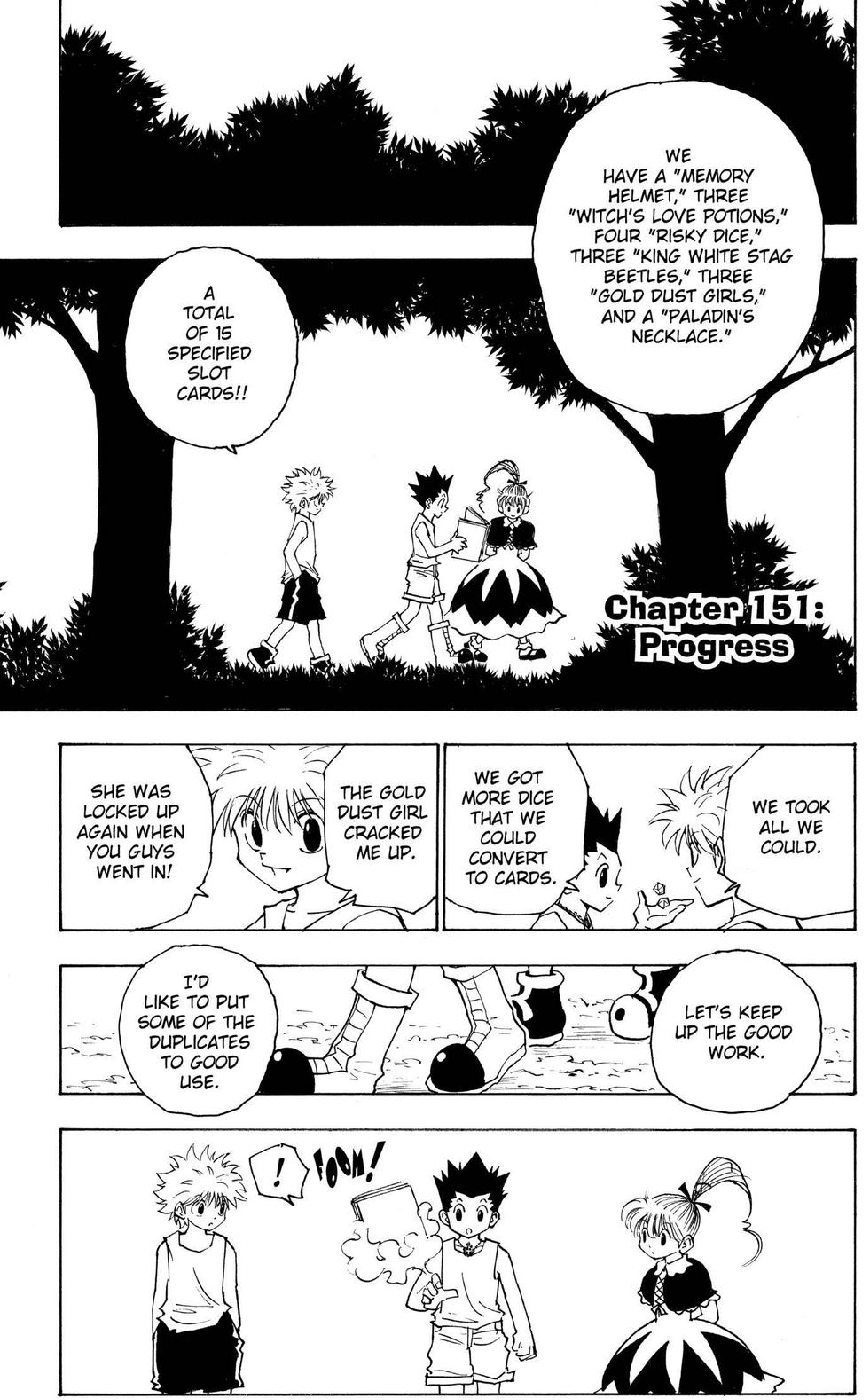

THE PALADIN'S NECKLACE!!
IT'S OURS!!
84
PALADIN'S NECKLACE
D-60
A PLAYER WEARING THIS WILL REFLECT CURSES CAST UPON HIM, AND BE ABLE TO UNDO CURSES PLACED ON CARDS HE TOUCHES.
THE TEXT DOESN'T EXPLAIN MUCH.
LET'S ASK AT A TRADE SHOP.
IT CASTS "REFLECT" ON YOU AS LONG AS YOU'RE WEARING IT.
YOU CAN ALSO REVERT CARDS CURSED BY "CLONE" AND "FAKE" BY TOUCHING THEM.
WOW!! WE WON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT HAVING OUR CARDS STOLEN!!
BUT WE WON'T BE ABLE TO HAVE IT AS A CARD.
YEAH, THIS IS THE PRIZE FOR JANUARY.
WE HAVE ONLY ONE CHANCE TO GET IT A YEAR!
TAKE A GOOD LOOK.
?

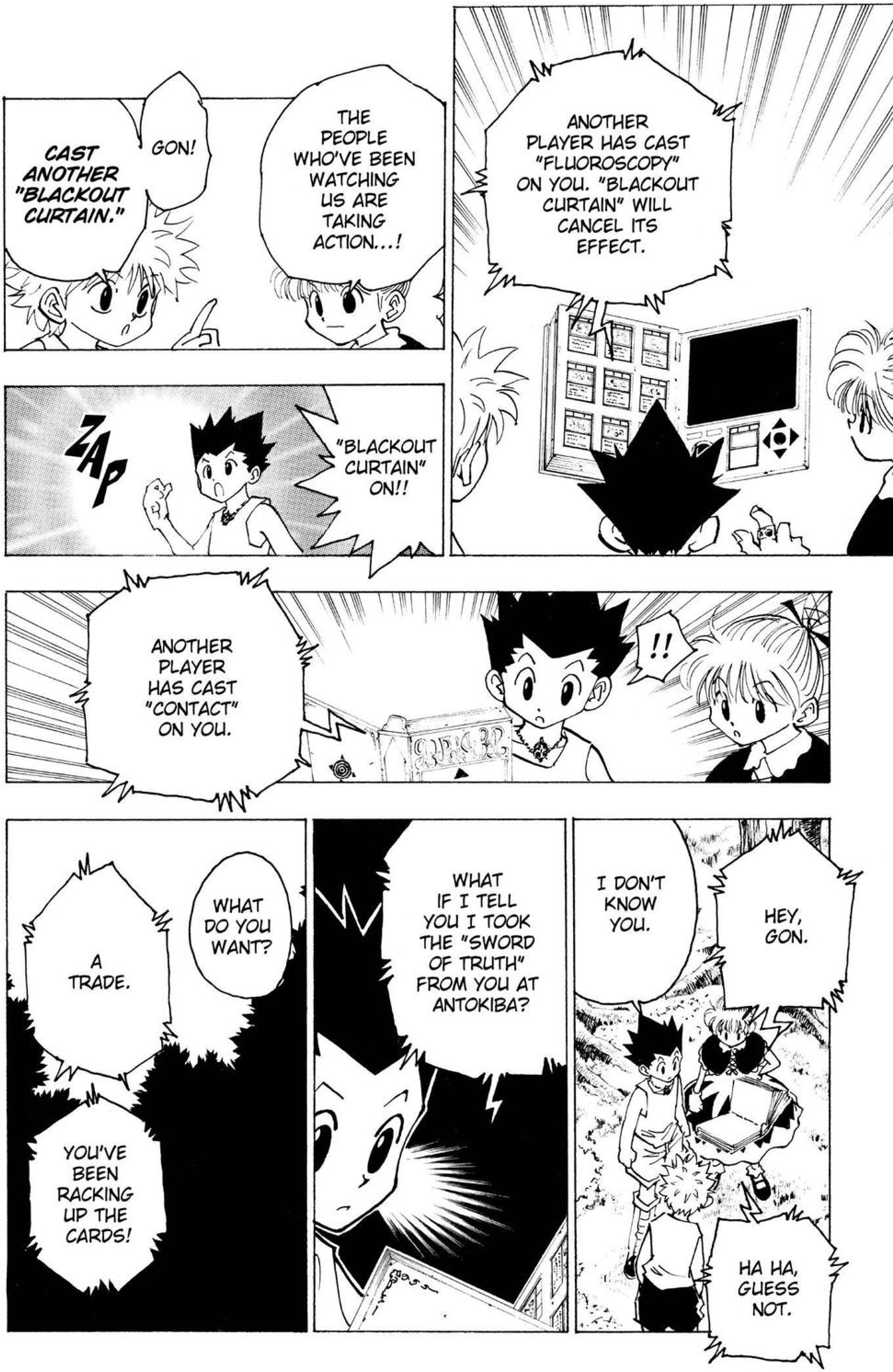

IT'S RANK D!!
WE CAN CAST "RECYCLE" ON THIS CARD.
!
RANK D, EVEN THOUGH YOU CAN GET IT ONLY ONCE A YEAR?
NOTES ON SPELL CARDS.
WELL, YOU CAN ALSO GET IT THROUGH, UM... "COMPROMISE" AND "CORRUPTION."
WE CAN MAKE MORE OF THIS CARD UNDER THE RIGHT CONDITIONS!
IT'LL BE GREAT TRADING FODDER.
WE HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR!!
YEAH!!
OFF TO DORIAS, THE GAMBLING TOWN!!

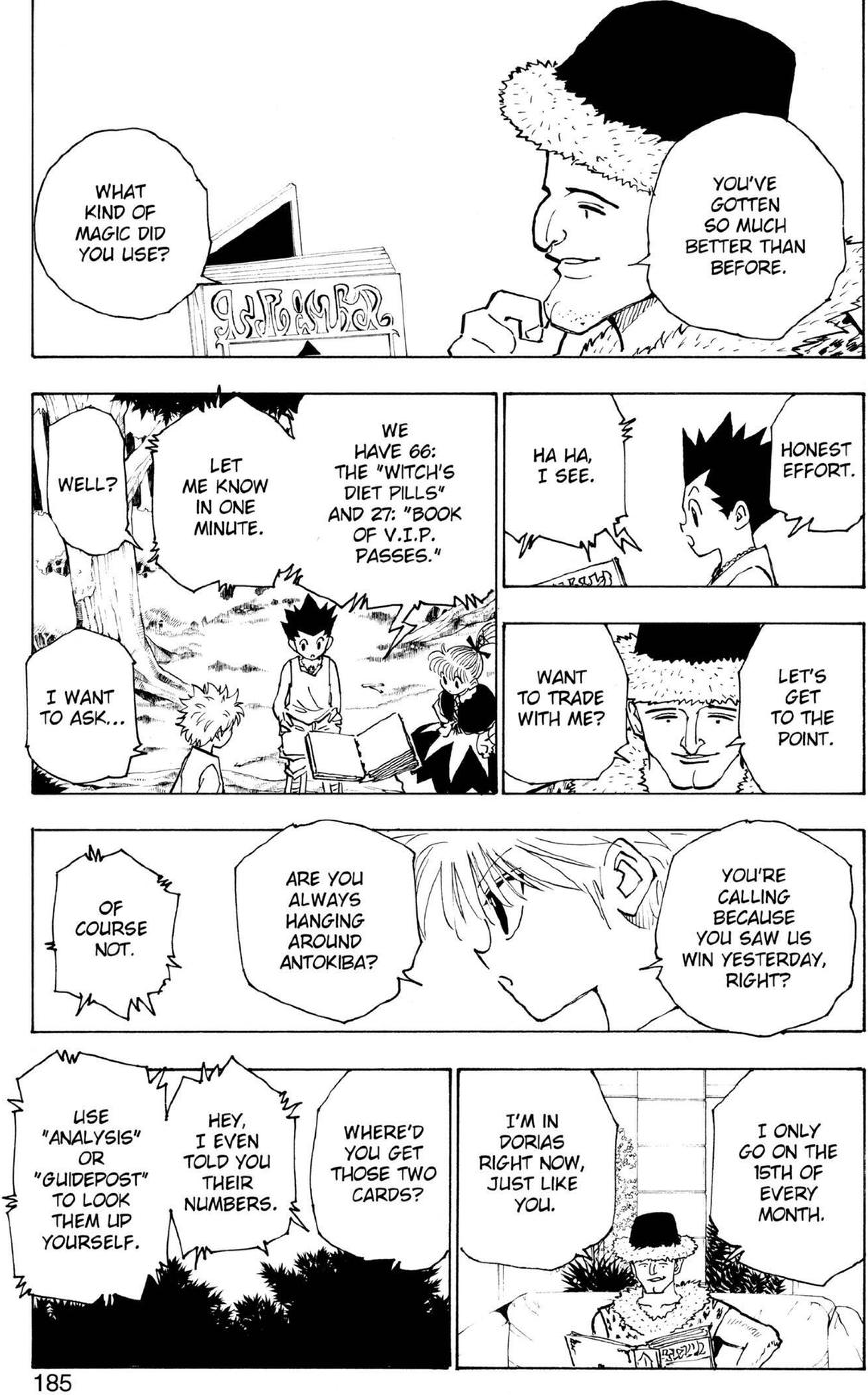

64
WITCH'S LOVE POTION
B-30
KISS A PILL AND HAVE YOUR INTENDED DRINK IT, AND HE OR SHE WILL FALL IN LOVE WITH YOU. ONE PILL LASTS ONE WEEK; ONE VIAL CONTAINS 500 PILLS.
25
RISKY DICE
B-30
A TWENTY-SIDED DIE WITH ONE "WORST LUCK" FACE AND 19 "GREAT LUCK" FACES. GREAT THINGS HAPPEN WHEN YOU ROLL "GREAT LUCK," BUT "WORST LUCK" WILL BE BAD ENOUGH TO CANCEL OUT ALL THE PREVIOUS GREAT LUCKS.
90
MEMORY HELMET
A-20
YOU WILL NEVER FORGET THINGS YOU SEE OR HEAR WHILE WEARING THIS HELMET. UNFORTUNATELY, IT'S EXTREMELY LARGE AND HEAVY.
EASY MONEY!!
EASY?! NOT AT ALL.
IT WAS ONLY POSSIBLE THROUGH THREE MONTHS OF BACKBREAKING EFFORT...!

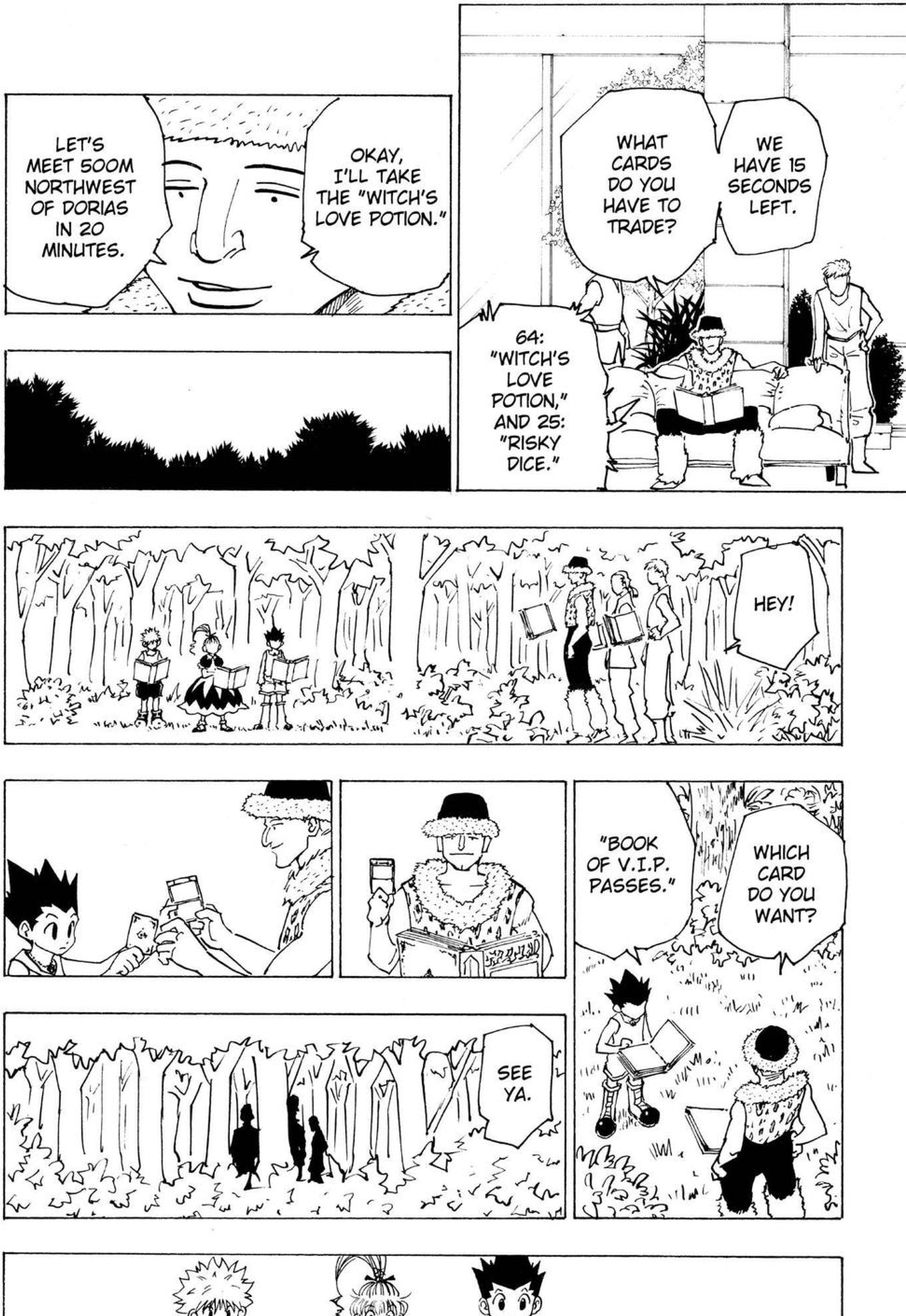
POP

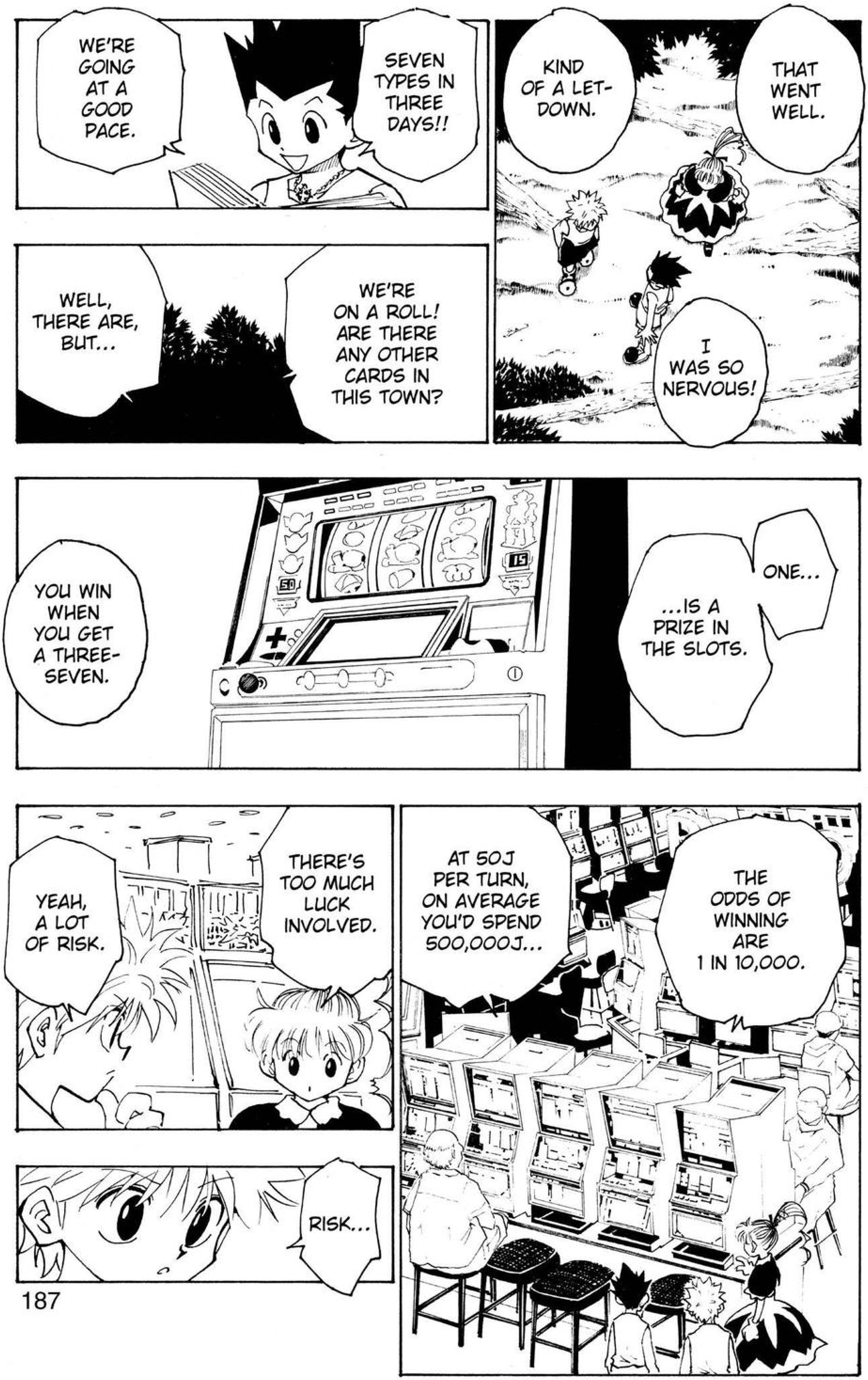
Chapter 151: Progress

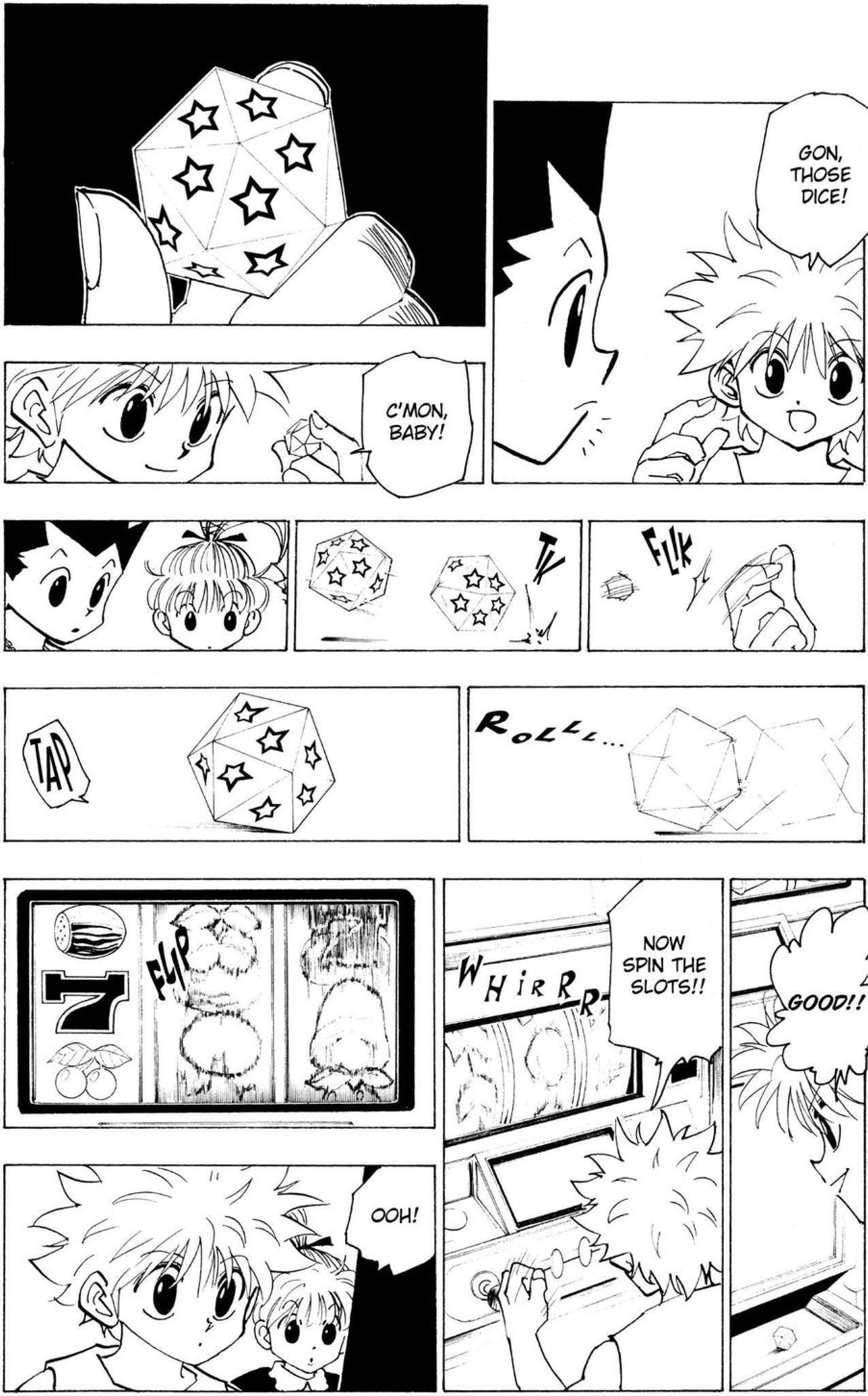

WE HAVE A "MEMORY HELMET," THREE "WITCH'S LOVE POTIONS," FOUR "RISKY DICE," THREE "KING WHITE STAG BEETLES," THREE "GOLD DUST GIRLS," AND A "PALADIN'S NECKLACE."
A TOTAL OF 15 SPECIFIED SLOT CARDS!!
WE TOOK ALL WE COULD.
WE GOT MORE DICE THAT WE COULD CONVERT TO CARDS.
THE GOLD DUST GIRL CRACKED ME UP.
SHE WAS LOCKED UP AGAIN WHEN YOU GUYS WENT IN!
LET'S KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK.
I'D LIKE TO PUT SOME OF THE DUPLICATES TO GOOD USE.
FOOM!
!

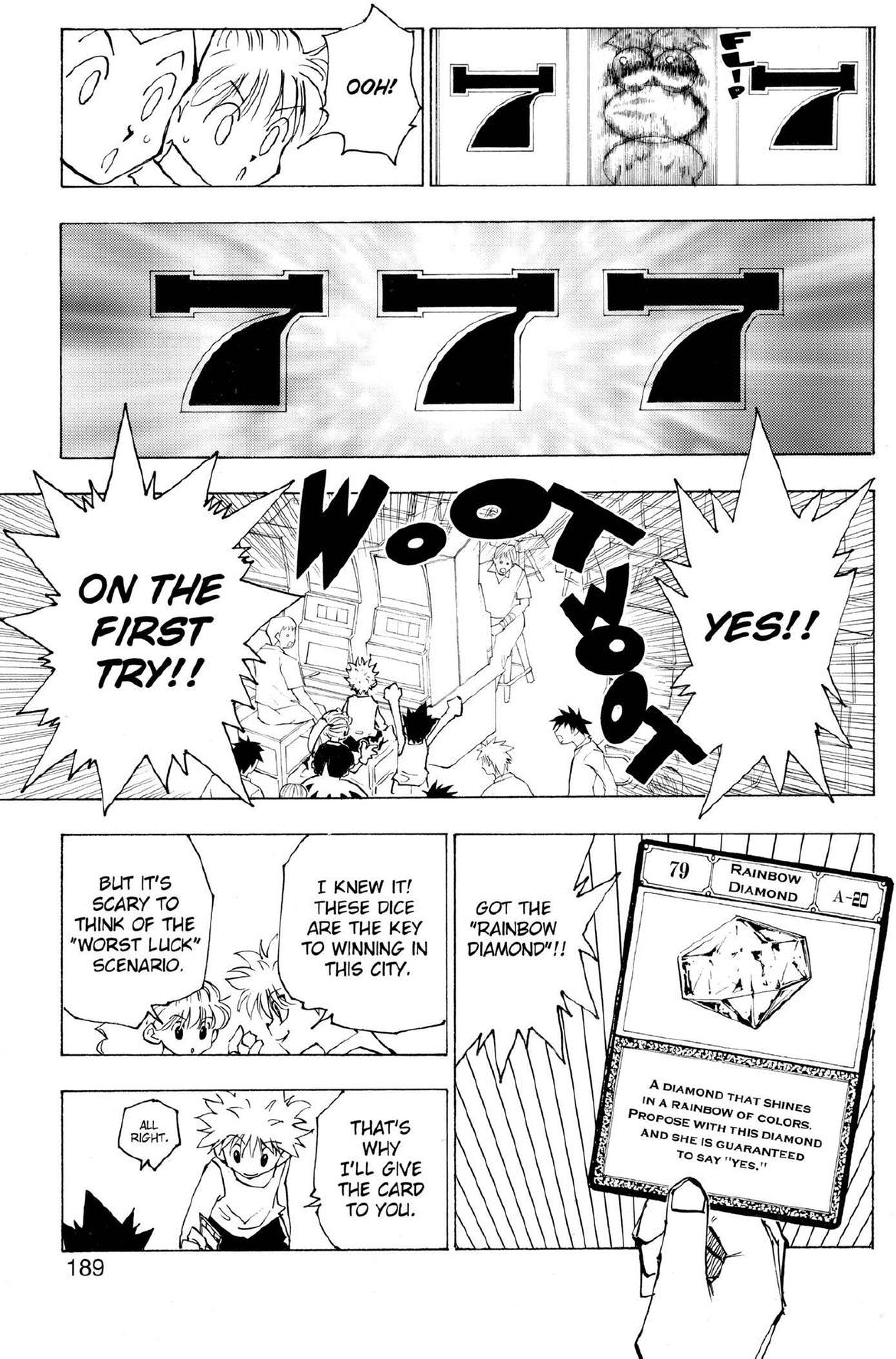

ANOTHER PLAYER HAS CAST "FLUOROSCOPY" ON YOU. "BLACKOUT CURTAIN" WILL CANCEL ITS EFFECT.
THE PEOPLE WHO'VE BEEN WATCHING US ARE TAKING ACTION...!
GON!
CAST ANOTHER "BLACKOUT CURTAIN."
"BLACKOUT CURTAIN" ON!!
ZAP
!!
ANOTHER PLAYER HAS CAST "CONTACT" ON YOU.
HEY, GON.
I DON'T KNOW YOU.
HA HA, GUESS NOT.
WHAT IF I TELL YOU I TOOK THE "SWORD OF TRUTH" FROM YOU AT ANTOKIBA?
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
A TRADE.
YOU'VE BEEN RACKING UP THE CARDS!

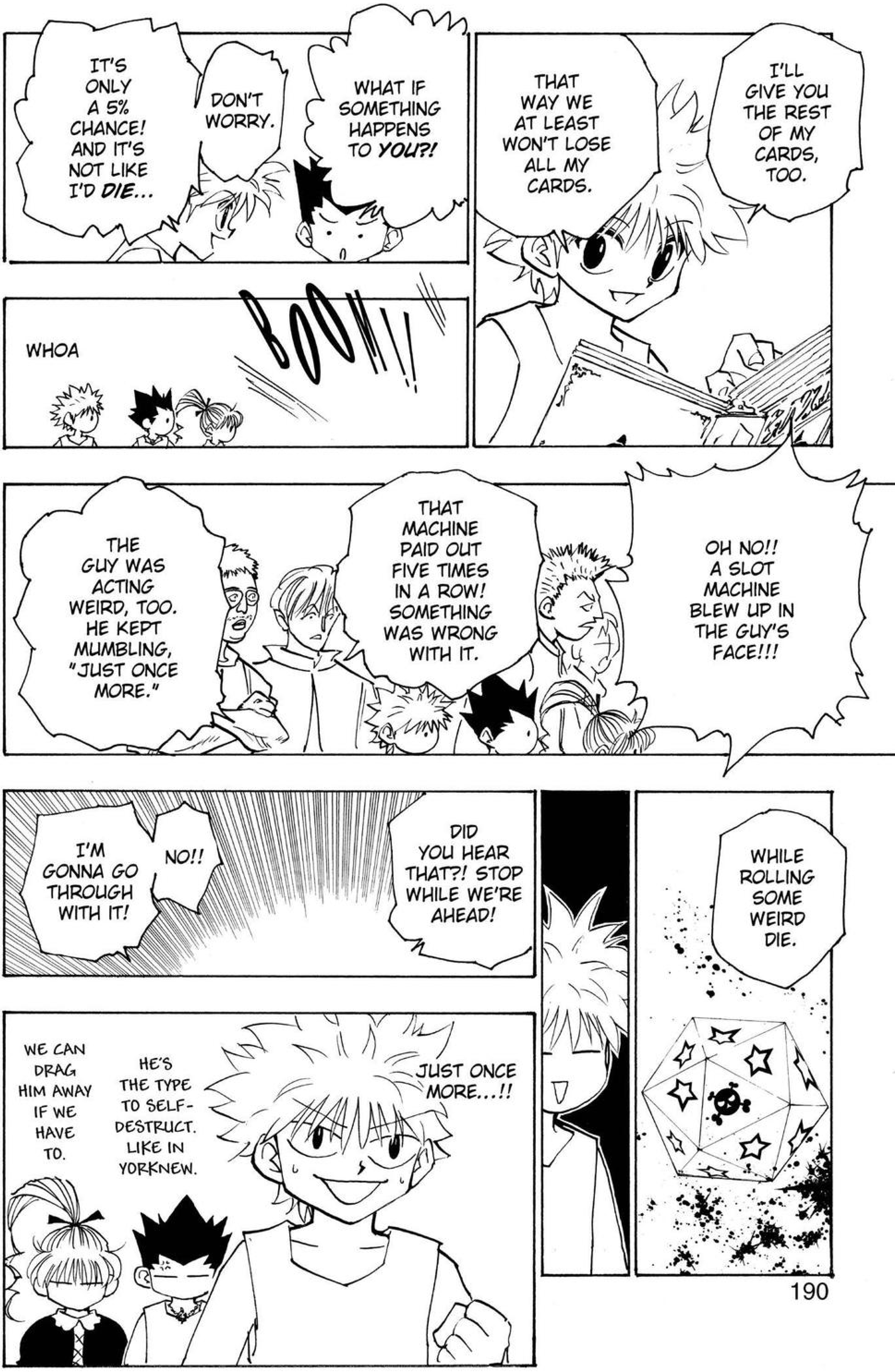

YOU'VE GOTTEN SO MUCH BETTER THAN BEFORE.
WHAT KIND OF MAGIC DID YOU USE?
HONEST EFFORT.
HA HA, I SEE.
LET'S GET TO THE POINT.
WANT TO TRADE WITH ME?
WE HAVE 66: THE "WITCH'S DIET PILLS" AND 27: "BOOK OF V.I.P. PASSES."
LET ME KNOW IN ONE MINUTE.
WELL?
I WANT TO ASK...
YOU'RE CALLING BECAUSE YOU SAW US WIN YESTERDAY, RIGHT?
ARE YOU ALWAYS HANGING AROUND ANTOKIBA?
OF COURSE NOT.
I ONLY GO ON THE 15TH OF EVERY MONTH.
I'M IN DORIAS RIGHT NOW, JUST LIKE YOU.
WHERE'D YOU GET THOSE TWO CARDS?
HEY, I EVEN TOLD YOU THEIR NUMBERS.
USE "ANALYSIS" OR "GUIDEPOST" TO LOOK THEM UP YOURSELF.

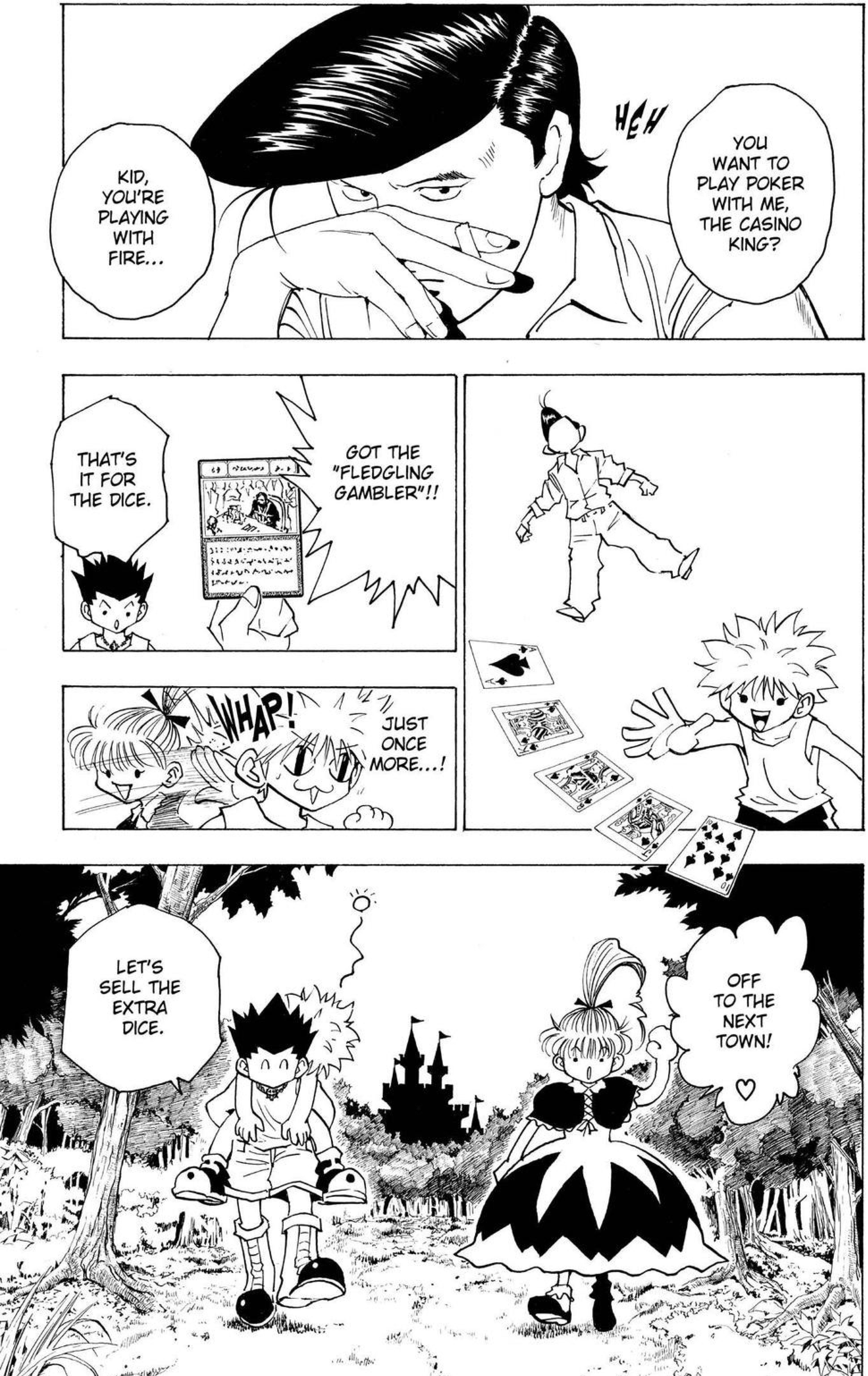

WE HAVE 15 SECONDS LEFT.
WHAT CARDS DO YOU HAVE TO TRADE?
64: "WITCH'S LOVE POTION," AND 25: "RISKY DICE."
OKAY, I'LL TAKE THE "WITCH'S LOVE POTION."
LET'S MEET 500M NORTHWEST OF DORIAS IN 20 MINUTES.
HEY!
WHICH CARD DO YOU WANT?
"BOOK OF V.I.P. PASSES."
SEE YA.

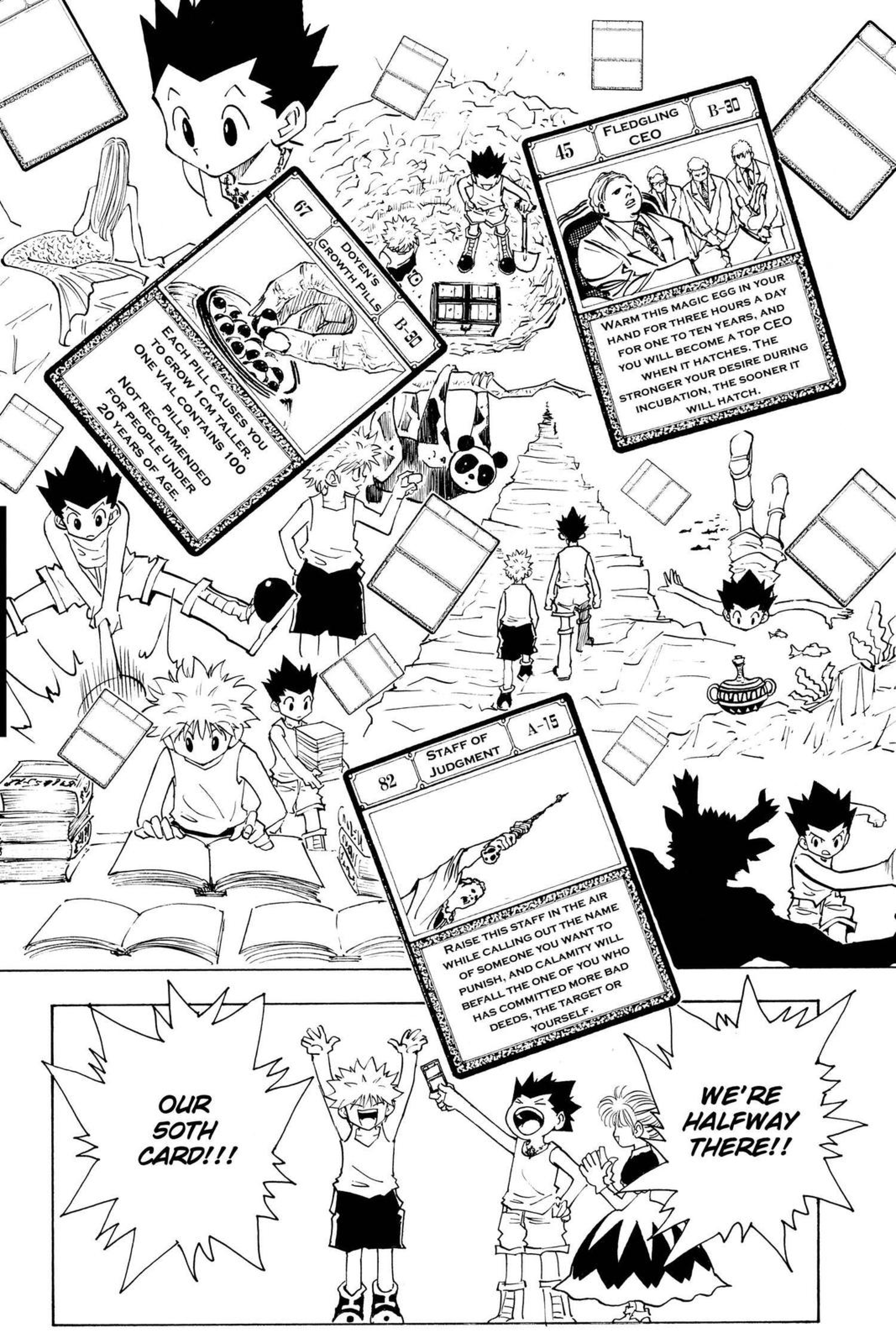

THAT WENT WELL.
KIND OF A LET-DOWN.
I WAS SO NERVOUS!
SEVEN TYPES IN THREE DAYS!!
WE'RE GOING AT A GOOD PACE.
WE'RE ON A ROLL! ARE THERE ANY OTHER CARDS IN THIS TOWN?
WELL, THERE ARE, BUT...
ONE...
...IS A PRIZE IN THE SLOTS.
YOU WIN WHEN YOU GET A THREE-SEVEN.
THE ODDS OF WINNING ARE 1 IN 10,000.
AT 50J PER TURN, ON AVERAGE YOU'D SPEND 500,000J...
THERE'S TOO MUCH LUCK INVOLVED.
YEAH, A LOT OF RISK.
RISK...

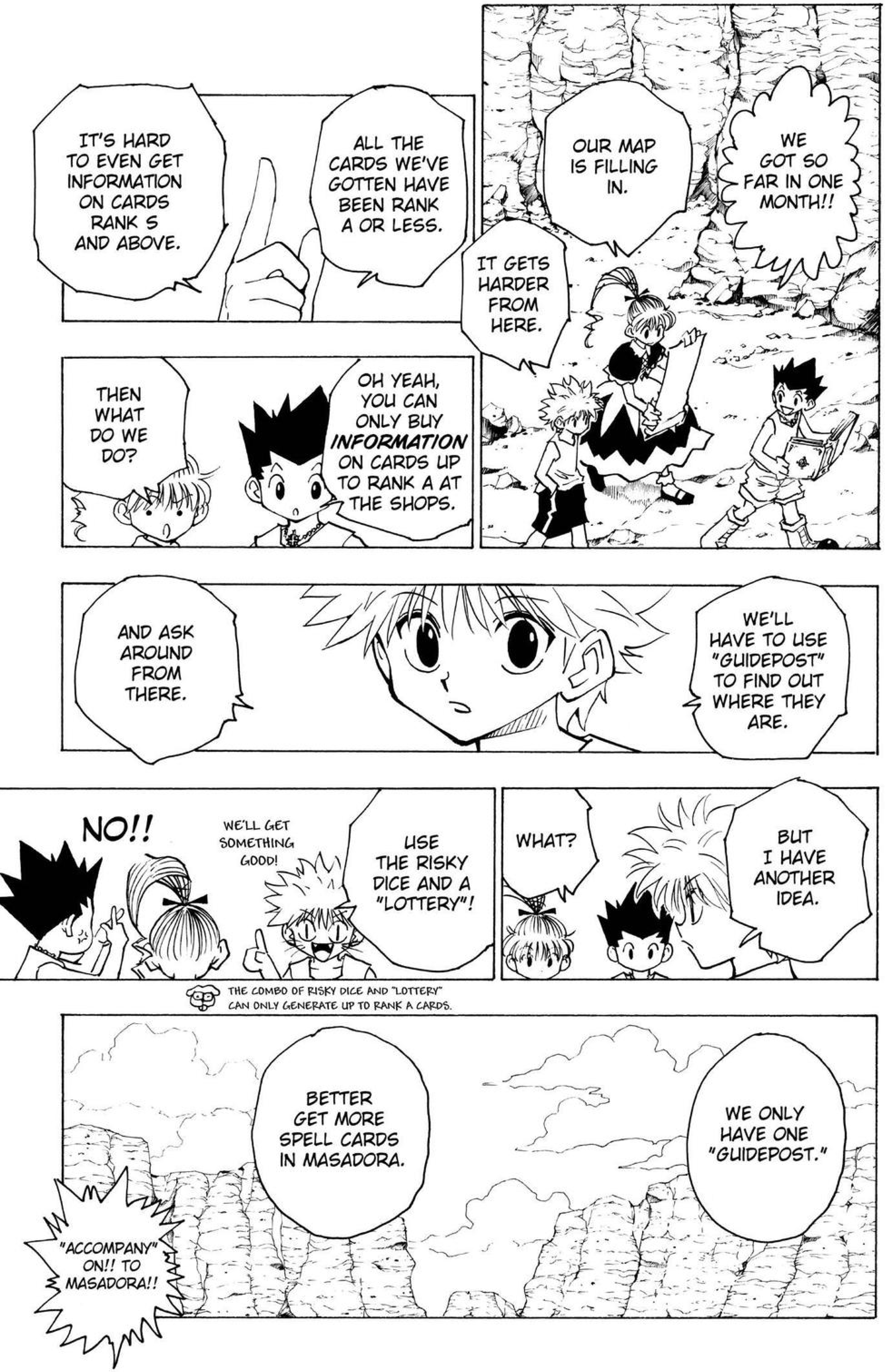

GON, THOSE DICE!
C'MON, BABY!
FLIK
TK
TAP
ROLLL...
GOOD!!
NOW SPIN THE SLOTS!!
WHIRRR
FLIP
OOH!


FLIP
OOH!
WOOT WOOT
YES!!
ON THE FIRST TRY!!
GOT THE "RAINBOW DIAMOND"!!
79
RAINBOW DIAMOND
A-20
A DIAMOND THAT SHINES IN A RAINBOW OF COLORS. PROPOSE WITH THIS DIAMOND AND SHE IS GUARANTEED TO SAY "YES."
I KNEW IT! THESE DICE ARE THE KEY TO WINNING IN THIS CITY.
BUT IT'S SCARY TO THINK OF THE "WORST LUCK" SCENARIO.
THAT'S WHY I'LL GIVE THE CARD TO YOU.
ALL RIGHT.

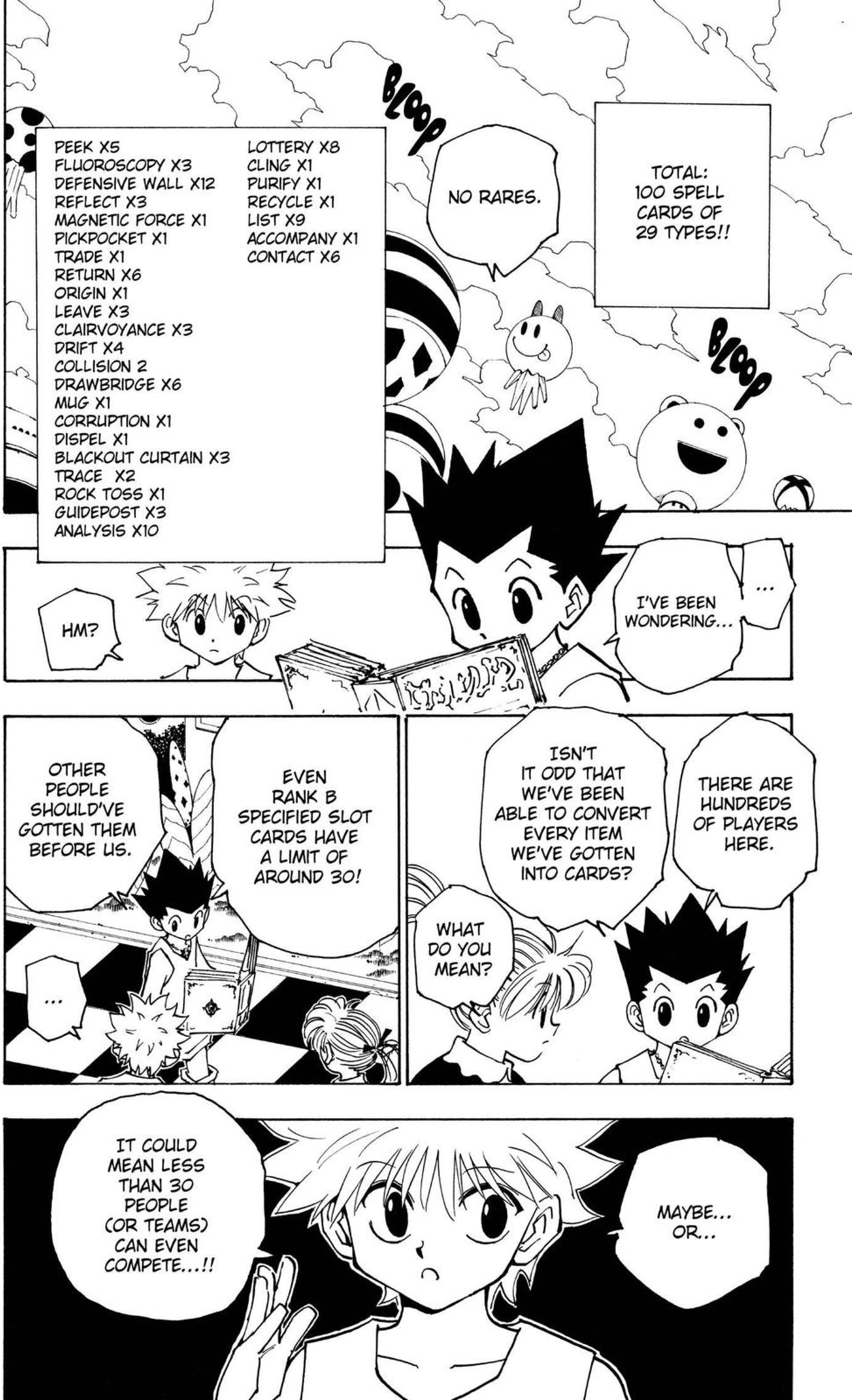

I'LL GIVE YOU THE REST OF MY CARDS, TOO.
THAT WAY WE AT LEAST WON'T LOSE ALL MY CARDS.
WHAT IF SOMETHING HAPPENS TO *YOU?!*
DON'T WORRY.
IT'S ONLY A 5% CHANCE! AND IT'S NOT LIKE I'D *DIE*...
BOOM!!
WHOA
OH NO!! A SLOT MACHINE BLEW UP IN THE GUY'S FACE!!!
THAT MACHINE PAID OUT FIVE TIMES IN A ROW! SOMETHING WAS WRONG WITH IT.
THE GUY WAS ACTING WEIRD, TOO. HE KEPT MUMBLING, "JUST ONCE MORE."
WHILE ROLLING SOME WEIRD DIE.
DID YOU HEAR THAT?! STOP WHILE WE'RE AHEAD!
NO!!
I'M GONNA GO THROUGH WITH IT!
JUST ONCE MORE...!!
HE'S THE TYPE TO SELF-DESTRUCT. LIKE IN YORKNEW.
WE CAN DRAG HIM AWAY IF WE HAVE TO.

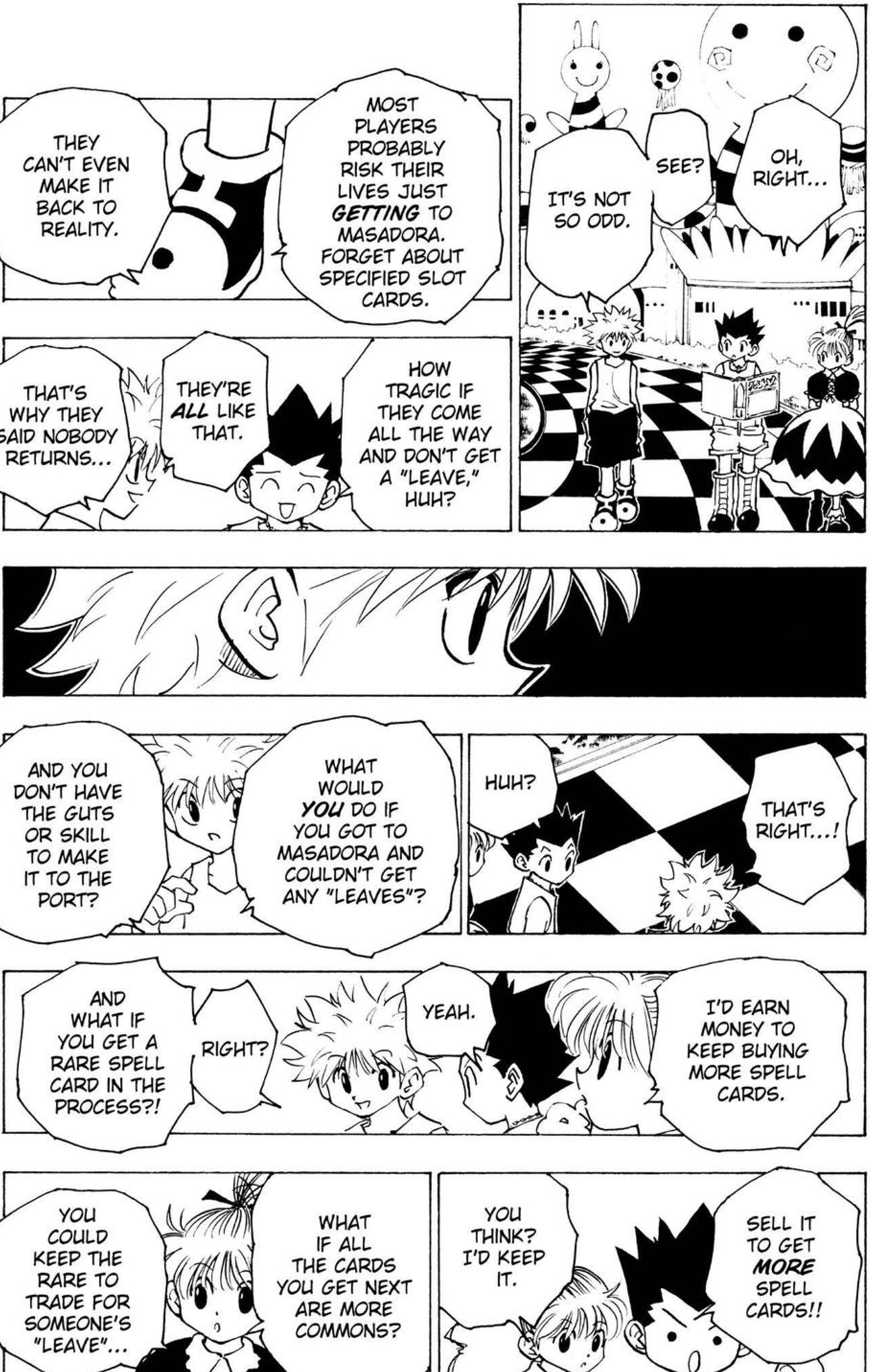

YOU WANT TO PLAY POKER WITH ME, THE CASINO KING?
HEH
KID, YOU'RE PLAYING WITH FIRE...
GOT THE "FLEDGLING GAMBLER"!!
THAT'S IT FOR THE DICE.
JUST ONCE MORE...!
WHAP!
OFF TO THE NEXT TOWN! ♡
LET'S SELL THE EXTRA DICE.

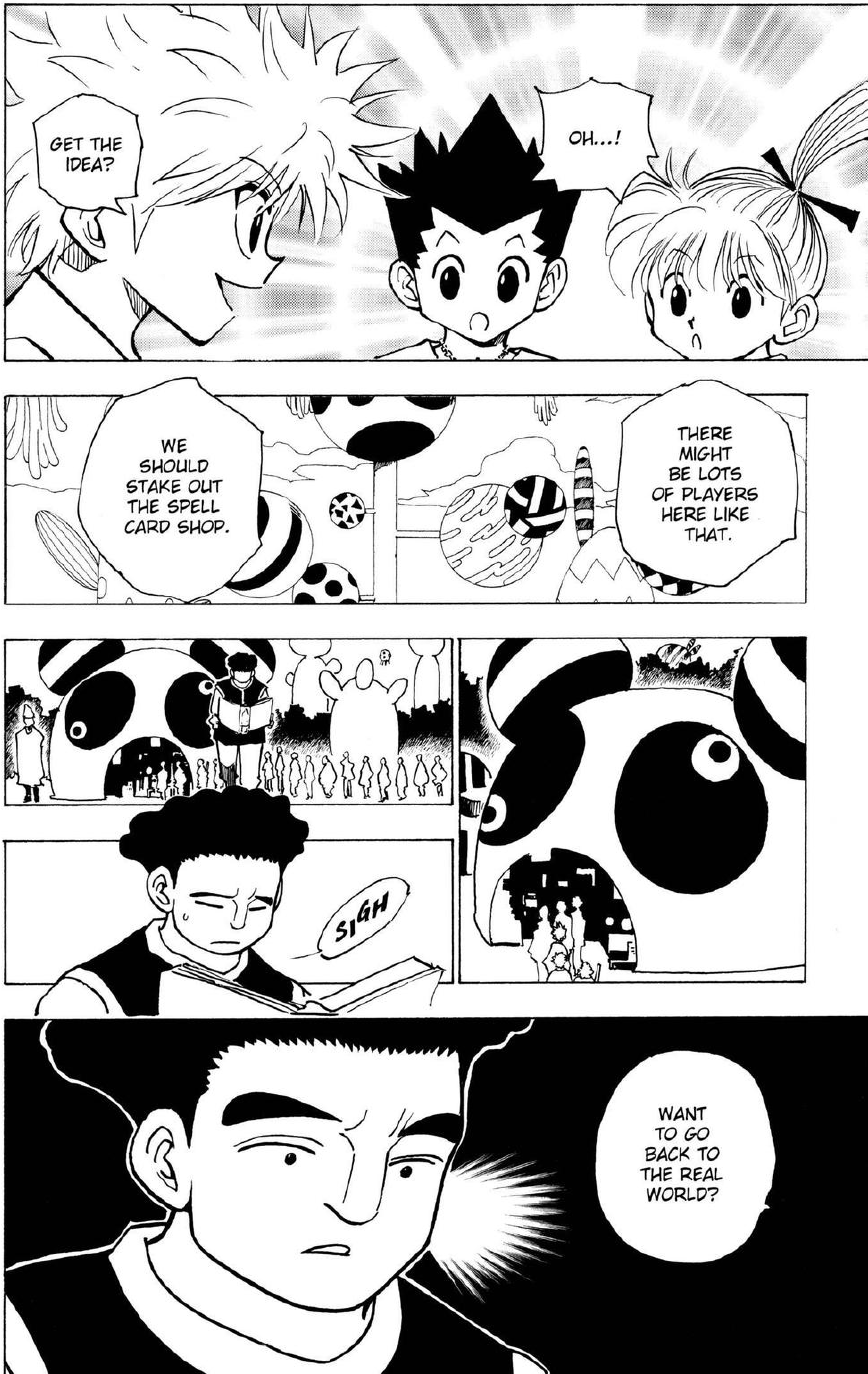

45
Fledgling CEO
B-30
Warm this magic egg in your hand for three hours a day for one to ten years, and you will become a top CEO when it hatches. The stronger your desire during incubation, the sooner it will hatch.
67
Doyen's Growth Pills
B-30
Each pill causes you to grow 1cm taller. One vial contains 100 pills. Not recommended for people under 20 years of age.
82
Staff of Judgment
A-15
Raise this staff in the air while calling out the name of someone you want to punish, and calamity will befall the one of you who has committed more bad deeds, the target or yourself.
WE'RE HALFWAY THERE!!
OUR 50TH CARD!!!

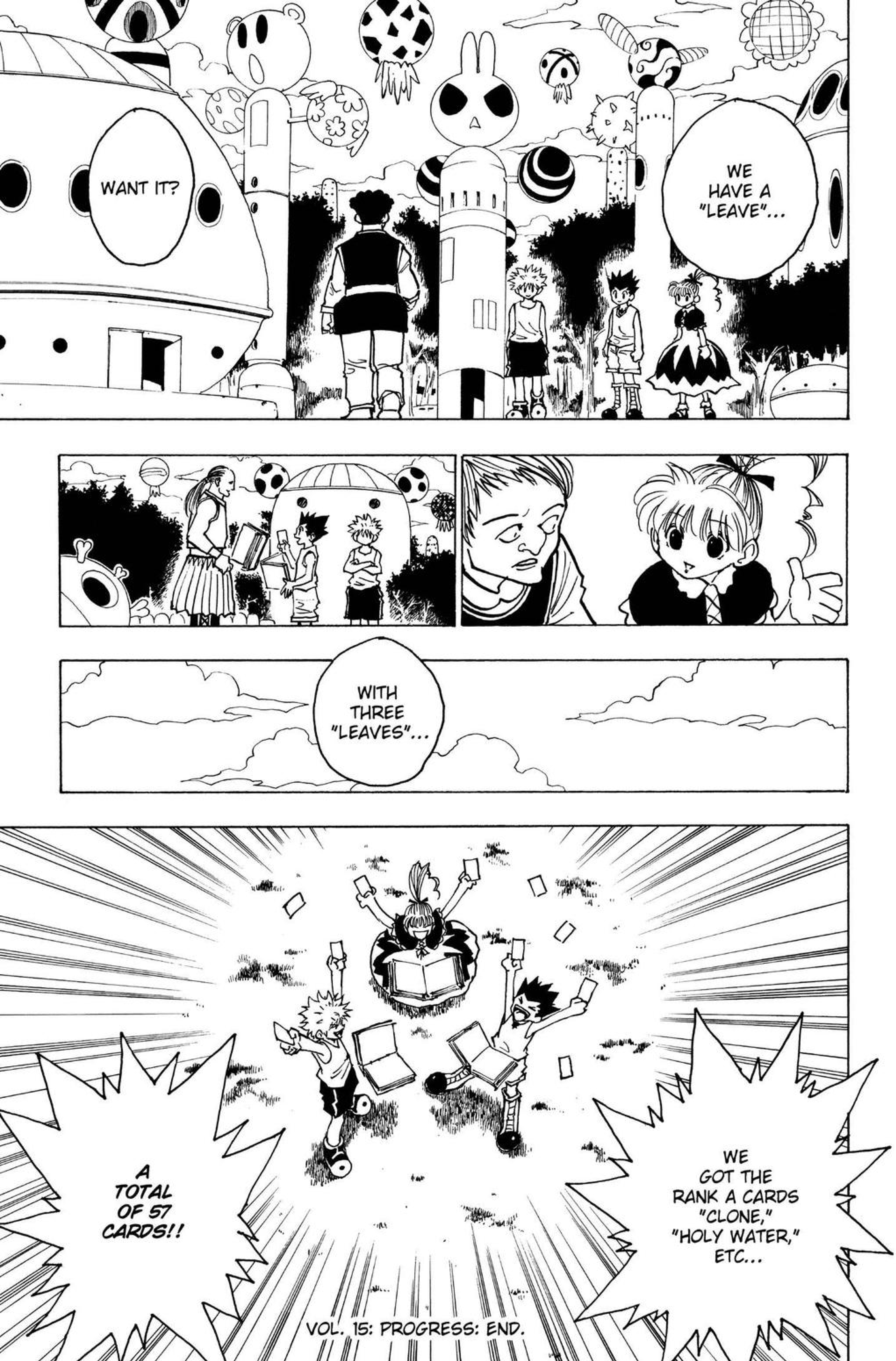

WE GOT SO FAR IN ONE MONTH!!
OUR MAP IS FILLING IN.
IT GETS HARDER FROM HERE.
ALL THE CARDS WE'VE GOTTEN HAVE BEEN RANK A OR LESS.
IT'S HARD TO EVEN GET INFORMATION ON CARDS RANK S AND ABOVE.
OH YEAH, YOU CAN ONLY BUY ***INFORMATION*** ON CARDS UP TO RANK A AT THE SHOPS.
THEN WHAT DO WE DO?
WE'LL HAVE TO USE "GUIDEPOST" TO FIND OUT WHERE THEY ARE.
AND ASK AROUND FROM THERE.
BUT I HAVE ANOTHER IDEA.
WHAT?
USE THE RISKY DICE AND A "LOTTERY"!
WE'LL GET SOMETHING GOOD!
NO!!
WE ONLY HAVE ONE "GUIDEPOST."
BETTER GET MORE SPELL CARDS IN MASADORA.
"ACCOMPANY" ON!! TO MASADORA!!

THE COMBO OF RISKY DICE AND "LOTTERY" CAN ONLY GENERATE UP TO RANK A CARDS.


TOTAL: 100 SPELL CARDS OF 29 TYPES!!
BLOOP
NO RARES.
BLOOP
PEEK X5
FLUOROSCOPY X3
DEFENSIVE WALL X12
REFLECT X3
MAGNETIC FORCE X1
PICKPOCKET X1
TRADE X1
RETURN X6
ORIGIN X1
LEAVE X3
CLAIRVOYANCE X3
DRIFT X4
COLLISION 2
DRAWBRIDGE X6
MUG X1
CORRUPTION X1
DISPEL X1
BLACKOUT CURTAIN X3
TRACE X2
ROCK TOSS X1
GUIDEPOST X3
ANALYSIS X10
LOTTERY X8
CLING X1
PURIFY X1
RECYCLE X1
LIST X9
ACCOMPANY X1
CONTACT X6
...
I'VE BEEN WONDERING...
HM?
THERE ARE HUNDREDS OF PLAYERS HERE.
ISN'T IT ODD THAT WE'VE BEEN ABLE TO CONVERT EVERY ITEM WE'VE GOTTEN INTO CARDS?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
EVEN RANK B SPECIFIED SLOT CARDS HAVE A LIMIT OF AROUND 30!
OTHER PEOPLE SHOULD'VE GOTTEN THEM BEFORE US.
...
MAYBE... OR...
IT COULD MEAN LESS THAN 30 PEOPLE (OR TEAMS) CAN EVEN COMPETE...!!


IT'S NOT SO ODD.
SEE?
OH, RIGHT...
MOST PLAYERS PROBABLY RISK THEIR LIVES JUST **GETTING** TO MASADORA. FORGET ABOUT SPECIFIED SLOT CARDS.
THEY CAN'T EVEN MAKE IT BACK TO REALITY.
HOW TRAGIC IF THEY COME ALL THE WAY AND DON'T GET A "LEAVE," HUH?
THEY'RE **ALL** LIKE THAT.
THAT'S WHY THEY SAID NOBODY RETURNS...
THAT'S RIGHT...!
HUH?
WHAT WOULD **YOU** DO IF YOU GOT TO MASADORA AND COULDN'T GET ANY "LEAVES"?
AND YOU DON'T HAVE THE GUTS OR SKILL TO MAKE IT TO THE PORT?
I'D EARN MONEY TO KEEP BUYING MORE SPELL CARDS.
YEAH.
RIGHT?
AND WHAT IF YOU GET A RARE SPELL CARD IN THE PROCESS?!
SELL IT TO GET **MORE** SPELL CARDS!!
YOU THINK? I'D KEEP IT.
WHAT IF ALL THE CARDS YOU GET NEXT ARE MORE COMMONS?
YOU COULD KEEP THE RARE TO TRADE FOR SOMEONE'S "LEAVE"...


GET THE IDEA?
OH...!
THERE MIGHT BE LOTS OF PLAYERS HERE LIKE THAT.
WE SHOULD STAKE OUT THE SPELL CARD SHOP.
SIGH
WANT TO GO BACK TO THE REAL WORLD?


WE HAVE A "LEAVE"...
WANT IT?
WITH THREE "LEAVES"...
WE GOT THE RANK A CARDS "CLONE," "HOLY WATER," ETC...
A TOTAL OF 57 CARDS!!

VOL. 15: PROGRESS: END.